

# ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

**DIGITAL  
COPY**

PROF.  
MASUD-UL-HASAN





**ENCYCLOPAEDIA  
OF  
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE**

This is a unique, interesting, informative and encyclopaedic work seeking to compress Knowledge in all disciplines in the form of 3000 Questions and Answers. We claim that after studying the book you will be more informed. You may verify it for yourself. If you are sitting for any competitive examination then this book is a 'Must'—it should be your guide and companion. The book will open vistas of knowledge and career for our young men.



# GENERAL KNOWLEDGE ENCYCLOPAEDIA

*By*  
PROF. MASUD-UL-HASAN

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The first ever Encyclopaedia of  
general knowledge in the form of  
**3000** Questions and Answers  
COVERING

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GEOGRAPHY; GEOLOGY; HYGIENE; EVERY DAY  
SCIENCE; INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS; ISLAM;  
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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

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## PREFACE

I have the pleasure to present 'General knowledge Encyclopaedia'. It is a multi-dimensional effort, the result of a lifetime's gathering pebbles on the sea shores of knowledge.

We have such hobbies as stamp collecting, or collecting curios. My hobby has been to collect tit-bits of knowledge. During seventy years of my life whenever I came across some interesting piece of information and knowledge I noted it in a Note book. After a lifetime's effort this has grown sufficiently voluminous, and instead of keeping this collection to myself, I have deemed it expedient to publish the collection in a book form, and pass on this heritage of knowledge to our young men and women.

After retirement from Government service as Adviser, I have established an Institute of Knowledge, and here scholars determined to build careers through competitive examinations are admitted. As a result of the experiments undertaken at the Institute I wrote in 1974 a book 'Many Things to Know'. It was a miscellany of 1001 questions and answers. In 1975 the second edition was issued and enlarged to cover two volumes. In 1975 another book 'Short Encyclopaedia to General Knowledge' covering 200 topics was published. The book ran two editions in one year. Now encouraged by the patronage of earlier books I have the pleasure to present a more comprehensive volume entitled 'General Knowledge Encyclopaedia'. The number of topics covered is 3000. The form of question and answer has been adopted in order to have a heart to heart dialogue with the seeker of knowledge.

Knowledge is unlimited. It is not claimed that in this book I have told you all, that you should know. But I have the consolation that in this book I have told you many things which you should know. I assure you that after reading through this book you will be more informed and thus better equipped to face life.



All knowledge was originally one. Later on, knowledge came to be split up into many specialised fields. This is the age of specialisation and a specialist has always the tendency to overlook or underrate the importance of departments of knowledge other than his special field of study.

It is certainly good to specialise, but this specialisation must be rooted in General Knowledge. All knowledge can be likened to a giant tree. The various disciplines are like the branches of the tree. While you may make your nest on a particular branch you should not mistake the branch for the tree. Without general knowledge our specialist knowledge is apt to be rootless. In order to give dimensions to your knowledge it is necessary that while you may specialise in certain fields you should also have a grounding in general knowledge comprehending all knowledge.

A specialist specialises in the details of a particular field of study; a generalist has a grounding in general knowledge in outline. It is to fulfill this object that this book has been written. This book I assure you will provide you a satisfactory grounding in general knowledge.

The book has been written primarily for our young men and women appearing in competitive examinations. In this book I have included many questions asked at various competitive examinations. This book does not make an attempt to merely present an array of questions. The real purpose is to stimulate the spirit of acquiring knowledge. I would advise that our young men and women should keep note books in which good bits of information and general knowledge should be noted from time to time.

And I must urge that it is not only on the eve of a competitive examination that an attempt should be made to amass some knowledge. The gathering of pebbles on the sea shore of knowledge must be a continuous process. The habit of acquiring knowledge should be developed at schools and colleges. When you settle in life, the process of acquiring knowledge does not come to end. It goes on. Some one defined Man as a social animal. I would define Man as a Knowledge-gathering creature. Knowledge is life and life is knowledge. This book is therefore likely to be useful both for school and college students and those settled in life, but otherwise keen to make the best of life. I wish my readers a prosperous life enriched with knowledge.

Prof. MASUDUL HASAN



## **A**

### **1. ABBAS, THE GREAT**

**Who was Abbas the Great?**

He was the Persian Shah 1587—1628 A.D. He enlarged his empire at the expense of the Turks.

### **2. ABBASIDS**

**In Muslim history who were the Abbasids?**

They were the descendants of Abbas an uncle of the Holy Prophet. They wrested power from the Umayyads and ruled from 750 to 1258. During this period, 37 Caliphs belonging to the house of the Abbasids held office.

### **3. A. B. C. POWERS**

**Which countries make the A. B. C. Powers?**

Argentina, Brazil, and Chile in South America when acting in unison for a common purpose make the A.B.C. Powers.

### **4. ABOUKIR**

**Where is Aboukir, and what is its historical importance?**

It is a port on Aboukir Bay at the mouth of the Nile in Egypt. The place is of historical importance as it was here that the British Admiral Nelson defeated Napoleon in a naval battle in 1798. That barred the advance of Napoleon to the east.

### **5. ABOVE THE LINE PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS**

**In Government budget what are above the line payments and receipts?**

These are payments and receipts contained in that part of the budget dealing with expenditure to be met out of the revenue raised from taxation. Such payments cannot be made by borrowing from some other source.



## **6. ABRAHAM**

**Who was Abraham?**

He was the prophet of God. He belonged to Ur. He flourished about 2000 BC. He preached the unity of God. He migrated from Ur to Canaan.

## **7. ABRAHAM, PLAINS OF**

**Where are the 'Plains of Abraham'?**

These are in Canada. Here the English defeated the French in 1759 AD.

## **8. ABSENT MINDEDNESS**

**What is absent mindedness ?**

It is such absorption in some thought so as to be oblivious to the surrounding conditions.

## **9. ABSOLUTE ADVANTAGE**

**In economics what is the theory of absolute advantage?**

It is the theory that countries tend to specialise in the production of those goods and services which they can make and provide most profitably.

## **10. ABSOLUTE ZERO**

**What is the Absolute Zero, and what is its significance?**

It is the lowest temperature which can possibly be reached. It is  $-273.2^{\circ}\text{C}$  or  $-459.8^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

At this temperature all molecular movement would cease and no chemical action would be possible. At this temperature all things would be preserved for ever.

## **11. ABSOLUTISM**

**In Political Science what is 'Absolutism'?**

It is the system of government where political power is highly concentrated in one person or authority.



## 12. ABSTRACT ART

**In painting what is 'Abstract Art'?**

It is a work of art in which lines, textures, shapes and colours are without reference to recognisable objects. Such paintings are intended to capture thought.

## 13. ABU BAKR

**Who was Abu Bakr?**

Abu Bakr (573—634) was the first Caliph of Islam. During his two years caliphate apostasy was crushed and the Muslims extended their power to Iraq and Syria. He was the father-in-law of the Holy Prophet and was the father of Hazrat Ayesha.

## 14. ABU HANIFA

**Who was Abu Hanifa?**

Abu Hanifa (699—767) was the founder of the system of Muslim Jurisprudence. His mausoleum is at Baghdad.

## 15. ABUL ALA AL-MA ARRI

**Who was Abul Ala Al-Ma'arri?**

Abul Ala Al-Ma'arri (died 1057) was an Arabic poet who wrote fine poetry in imitation of the Quranic style. His poem 'The Epistle of Pardon' was the precursor of Dante's 'Divine Comedy'.

## 16. ABUL KALAM AZAD

**What is the title of the autobiography of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad?**

The title of his autobiography is "India Wins Freedom".

## 17. ABUL QASIM AL ZAHRAWI

**Who was Abul Qasim al Zahrawi?**

Abul Qasim al-Zahrawi (936—1013) was the greatest Arab Surgeon. He wrote 'Al-Tasrif', a book of surgery.

## 18. ABU NAWAS

**Who was Abu Nawas?**

Abu Nawas (died 810) was a distinguished poet of the court of Harrun-ur-Rashid. He wrote satires, elegies, songs and ethical poems.



## **19. ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

**What is 'Academic Freedom'?**

It is the right of scholars to teach, pursue research and publish the results of their research work without any restriction or regulation.

## **20. ACCELERATION**

**What is acceleration? What is the acceleration in the case of a falling body?**

Acceleration is increase in speed.

The acceleration caused by gravity is 32 feet per second. This means that the speed of a falling body increases at the rate of 32 ft. per second for each second it is falling.

## **21. ACCESSORY**

**In law who is:**

- (1) an accessory before the fact; and
- (2) an accessory after the fact.

An accessory before the fact is one who assists a person in the execution of crime.

An accessory after the fact is one who knowing that a crime has been perpetrated keeps silent.

## **22. ACHILLES**

**In Greek legend who was Achilles?**

He was the hero of the 'Iliad', and was the prominent Greek warrior in the Trojan war.

## **23. ACIDS-FRUITS**

**Name the acids found in some fruits?**

Citric acid is found in lemons;

Malic acid is found in apples; and

Oxalic acid is found in rhubarbs.



## **24. ACID-STRONGEST**

**Out of the acids, which is the strongest?**

Out of the acids, the strongest acid is the Perchloric acid.

## **25. ACQUIRED TRAIT**

**In Physiology what is an acquired trait?**

It is a characteristic which is peculiar to the person and which cannot be passed on to an off spring.

## **26. ACROPHOBIA**

**What is an Acrophobia?**

It is the fear of heights.

## **27. ACROPOLIS**

**In ancient Athens what did 'Acropolis' mean?**

It meant a 'high city'.

## **28. ACT FINALE**

**What is 'Act Finale'?**

It is a formal statement embodying the final discussions taken at a conference.

## **29. ACTINOLOGY**

**What is Actinology?**

It is science concerned with chemical action of light.

## **30. ACTINOTHERAPY**

**What is Actinotherapy?**

It is the treatment of disease by light rays.

## **31. ACTIOLOGY**

**What is Actiology?**

It is the science that studies the causes of disease.



### **32. ACT OF GOD**

**In law, what is 'act of God'?**

It is an accident caused by unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances.

### **33. ACTUARY**

**Who is an Actuary?**

He is a person specially skilled in the application of mathematical and statistical techniques to the problem of insurance of all types.

### **34. ADAM BRIDGE**

**Where is the Adam bridge?**

It is a bridge of sand and rock between India and Sri Lanka.

### **35. ADEN**

**How is Aden associated with Gibraltar?**

It is called the "Gibraltar of the Indian Ocean".

### **36. ADENAUER, KONRAD**

**Who was Konrad Adenauer?**

Konrad Adenauer (1876—1967) was the First Chancellor of the German Federal Republic from 1949 to 1963 after the second world war.

### **37. ADIS ABABA**

**Where is Adis Ababa?**

It is the capital of Ethiopia in Africa.

### **38. ADOLESCENCE**

**In a human being which is the period of adolescence?**

It is the period between the ages of 12 and 20.



### **39. ADRIANOPLE TREATY**

**What was the Adrianople treaty?**

Adrianople treaty of 1829 ended the Russo-Turkish war. By the treaty some Turkish territory was given to Russia; autonomy was given to Serbia; and Dardanelles was opened to all commercial vessels.

### **40. ADVENT**

**According to the Christians what is the 'Advent'?**

It is the period four weeks preceding the Christmas. It commemorates the first coming of Christ, and anticipates his second coming.

### **41. ADVERTISING**

**What is Advertising?**

It is the publicising of any goods or service to create an effective demand therefor.

### **42. AEDES**

**In Biology what is the Aedes?**

It is the mosquito that transmits the yellow fever.

### **43. AEON**

**What is an 'Aeon'?**

It is an infinitely long period of time.

### **44. AERATED WATER**

**What is 'aerated water'?**

It is a beverage in which gas has been passed through water.

### **45. AERATION**

**In Chemistry what is Aeration?**

It is the process of the purification of water by spraying it into the air.



#### **46. AERIAL**

**What is an 'Aerial'?**

It is a rod or wire put up on the top of a house to receive radio waves.

#### **47. AERODYNAMICS**

**What is Aerodynamics?**

It is the science that treats of gases in motion.

#### **48. AERO ENGINE**

**What is an Aero-engine?**

It is an engine that depends on the thrust of hot gases for power.

#### **49. AEROLOGY**

**What is Aerology?**

It is the science which studies air and its phenomena.

#### **50. AEROMETER**

**What is Aerometer?**

It is an instrument for measuring the weight or density of air and gases.

#### **51. AERONAUT**

**Who is an Aeronaut?**

He is an airship navigator.

#### **52. AEROPHOBIA**

**What is Aerophobia?**

It is the morbid dread of currents of air.

#### **53. AESTHETICS**

**What is Aesthetics, and what are its main schools of thought?**

It is the science of the beautiful in nature and the fine arts. It studies the nature of beauty and the laws governing its expression.



There are two main schools of thought namely the subjective and the objective.

The subjective school holds that beauty depends upon the perception of the beholder.

The objective school holds that beauty inheres in the external object.

#### **54. AFFIDAVIT**

**In law, what is an affidavit?**

It is a written statement of evidence on oath.

#### **55. AFFINITY (CHEMISTRY)**

**In Chemistry when we say that two elements have affinity for each other, what is the implication?**

The implication is that they can unite to form a compound.

#### **56. AFRICA—AREA AND POPULATION**

**What is the area and population of the continent of Africa?**

The area is 11,806,000 square miles.

The population is 35 crore.

#### **57. AFRICA—COUNTRIES**

**Which are the countries of Africa?**

These are: Egypt; Sudan; Ethiopia; Somalia; Kenya; Uganda; Rwanda; Burundi; Tanzania; Malawi; Mozambique; Malagasy; Rhodesia; Zambia; Botswana; Republic of South Africa; South West Africa; Angola; Congo (Zaire); Congo (Brazzaville); Gabon; Equatorial Guinea; Cameroun; Central African Republic; Chad; Niger; Nigeria; Dahomey; Togo; Ghana; Upper Volta; Ivory Coast; Liberia; Sierra Leone; Guinea; Gambia; Mali; Senegal; Mauritania; Spanish Sahara; Morocco; Algeria; Tunisia; and Libya.

#### **58. AGE—EARTH**

**What is the age of the earth?**

In 1883 on the basis of the rate of rotation of the earth and the time taken for the earth to cool, the age of the earth was estimated to be 10 crore years.



Subsequent to the discovery of radio activity some of the rocks have been dated 400 crore years.

Astronomical data suggest the age between 500 and 600 crore years.

### **59. AGRICULTURAL CROPLAND**

**What is the area of agricultural cropland in USSR; USA; India; China and Pakistan?**

The areas are:

USSR:	240 million hectares.
USA	170 million hectares.
India	160 m.h.
China	101 m.h.
Pakistan	20 m.h.

### **60. AGRICULTURE**

**What is agriculture?**

It is the science and the practice of the cultivation of the soil.

### **61. AGRILOGY**

**What is Agriology?**

It is the comparative study of primitive man.

### **62. AGRONOMICS**

**What is Agronomics?**

It is the science of the management of farms.

### **63. AIR**

**What is air, and what is its weight and pressure?**

Air is a mixture of Nitrogen 78 %; Oxygen 21 %, Argon .94 % and some Carbon Dioxide.

It is the commonest and the most valuable thing in the world. Without air, life would not be possible.

A litre of air weighs 1.29 grams.

The pressure of air at sea level is 15 pounds per square inch.

The pressure of air on each person is equal to the weight of three elephants.



#### **64. AIR CONDITIONING**

**What is air conditioning?**

It is making air just right for use in a building.

#### **65. AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURING COMPANY**

**Which is the world's largest aircraft manufacturing company?**

It is the Boeing Company, Washington, USA.

#### **66. AIRFLIGHTS**

**Which were the first air flights?**

The first flight in the air was the flight by Orville Wright in 'Flyer I' in North Carolina on December 17, 1903.

The first flight across the English channel was by Louis Bleriat of France on 25th July 1909.

The first trans-atlantic flight was made by Albert C. Read in May 1919. The distance of 3937 miles was covered in 54 hours.

The first air flight round the earth was by Lt. Lowell H. Smith in 1924. The flight took 351 hours.

#### **67. AIRFLIGHT—TRANSATLANTIC**

**What is the record for trans-Atlantic flight?**

In May 1961 Major William R. Payne crossed the Atlantic in 3 hours twenty minutes.

#### **68. AIRFLIGHT—WORLD**

**What is the record for the circumnavigation of the globe in airplane?**

In 1957 Maj. General Archie J. Old of USA flew 24325 miles in 45 hours 19 minutes.

#### **69. AIRLINE, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest airline in the world?**

It is the Aeroflot of USSR. It operates 1300 aircraft over 3,73,000 miles of route and carries 8 crore passengers per year.



## **70. AIRLINERS, PASSENGERS**

**How many passengers fly on the world airlines every year?**

Over 18 crore passengers fly on the world airlines every year,

## **71. AIRPORT**

**Which is the world's largest airport; busiest airport; highest airport; and lowest airport?**

Dulles International Airport Washington covering 9880 acres is the largest airport in the world.

Chicago International Airport is the busiest airport in the world where there is a take off or landing every minute.

El Alto Airport, Bolivia 13599 ft above sea level is the highest airport in the world.

The airport of Schiphol, Amsterdam 13 ft below sea level is the lowest airport in the world.

## **72. AIRSPEED**

**What is the airspeed record of an aeroplane?**

In 1965 the record of 2070 miles per hour was reached in California, USA.

## **73. AL-AKHTAL**

**Who was Al-Akhtal?**

Al-Akhtal (d 710) was the poet laureate of the Umayyad court under the Caliph Abdul Malik. He wrote some beautiful odes.

## **74. ALBATROSS**

**Which bird has the largest wing span?**

The albatross has the largest wing span. It is a large ocean bird mainly white with black wing tips. It is 45 to 50 inches long and has a wing span of 10 to 12 ft.

## **75. ALEXANDER**

**Who was Alexander the Great?**

Alexander the Great (356—323 BC) was the king of Macedon in Greece. He conquered Middle East, Persia, and a part of India.



## **76. AL-FARAZDAQ**

**Who was Al-Farazdaq?**

Al-Farazdaq (d 728) was an Arab poet known for his panegyrics and unsavoury invectives. He wrote some inspiring verses in praise of Ali and his descendants.

## **77. ALGAE**

**What are algae?**

These are primitive plants with no roots, stems, leaves or flowers. These are mostly aquatic plants.

## **78. ALGEBRA**

**What is Algebra? How did Newton refer to Algebra? Who is regarded as the father of Algebra?**

Algebra is a branch of Mathematics in which symbols are used in place of numbers.

Newton called Algebra the 'universal arithmetic'.

Al-Khawarizmi is held as the 'Father of Algebra'.

## **79. ALGOMETER**

**What is Algometer?**

It is an instrument which measures sensitivity to stimuli which cause pain.

## **80. ALHAMBRA**

**What are the Alhambra**

These are a citadel and a palace at Granada, Spain built by the Muslim kings in the 13th century. The buildings are built of red stone and stand on a plateau. These are regarded as an important historic monument.

## **81. ALHAZEN**

**Who was Al-Hazen?**

Known to the west as Alhazen, his original name was Abu Ali al Hasan bin al Haitham (965—1043). He was a great Muslim scientist. His book 'Kitab al Manazir' was the first comprehensive work on Optics.



## **82. ALHILLI**

**Who was Al-Hilli?**

Al-Hilli (d 1351) was an Arab poet associated with the court of the Urtuqids at Mardin. He wrote many beautiful odes and panegyrics in the praise of the Urtuqids.

## **83. ALI.**

**Who was Ali?**

Hazrat Ali (602—661) was the fourth Caliph of Islam. He was the son-in-law of the Holy Prophet. His mausoleum is at Najaf in Iraq.

## **84. ALIEN**

**In law, who is an alien?**

He is a person who is not a citizen of the State and belongs to some other State.

## **85. ALIMONY**

**In law what is alimony?**

It is an allowance which a husband is required to pay to wife not living with him.

## **86. ALKALIS**

**What are Alkalis? Name some common alkalis?**

Alkalis are substances which are soluble in water and neutralise acids forming salts. They turn red litmus blue.

Some common alkalis are: Ammonia; Caustic Soda; Caustic Potash; Sodium Carbonate; and Potassium Carbonate.

## **87. ALKALI—STRONGEST**

**Among the alkalis which is the strongest?**

Among the alkalis the strongest is Caustic Soda.

## **88. ALLAH**

**According to Islam what is 'Allah'?**

Allah is the name of the God of Islam, the Supreme Being,



the Creator of the Universe; the Lord of all the worlds; and the Master of the Day of Judgment.

## 89. ALLEGORY

**In literature what is an allegory?**

It is an extended metaphor in which characters carry some inner meaning besides the apparent and literal meaning.

Bunyan's book 'Pilgrim Progress' is the example of an allegory.

## 90. ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS

**What is 'Alliance for Progress'?**

It is an economic assistance programme instituted by the United States of America in 1961 to help solve economic and social problems of Latin American countries.

## 91. ALLITERATION

**What is Alliteration ? Give some examples.**

It is a sentence in which all words begin with the same letter. Some examples of alliteration are:

- (1) How high he holds his haughty head.
- (2) Peter Piper picked pickled peppers' pecks.

## 92. ALLOTROPY

**In Chemistry what is allotropy, and what is that due to?**

Allotropy is the phenomenon of the exhibition of different properties by the same element when in different forms. Carbon for example occurs in such forms as diamonds and charcoal. Both are carbon but with different properties.

Allotropy is due to different atomic and molecular arrangements in the same element.

## 93. ALLOY

**What is an alloy, and what are its characteristics? Name some alloys?**

An alloy is a homogeneous combination of two or more metals.



An alloy is harder than the metals from which it is formed. It melts at a lower temperature as compared with the constituent metals.

Some alloys are:

- (1) Brass-copper and zinc;
- (2) Bronze-copper, tin, and zinc;
- (3) Bell metal-copper and tin;
- (4) Dutch metal-copper and zinc;
- (5) German metal-copper, zinc, and nickel.

#### **94. ALL SOULS' DAY**

**What is 'All Souls' Day?**

It is a day observed by the Roman Catholic Church on November 2, to commemorate all the dead faithful.

#### **95. ALLUVIUM**

**What is alluvium?**

It is land built up of sediments deposited by running water.

#### **96. AL MUTANABBI**

**Who was Al-Mutanabbi?**

Al-Mutanabbi (d 965) is considered to be one of the greatest Arabic poets. He was attached to the Hamdanid court and wrote some fine poetry conspicuous for the elegance of form and purity of language.

#### **97. ALPACA**

**What is alpaca?**

It is a camel like animal found in South America.

#### **98. ALP ARSLAN**

**Who was Alp Arslan?**

Alp Arslan (1029—72) was the Seljuk Sultan of Persia. He defeated the Byzantine emperor at Manzikert.



## **99. ALPHA RAYS**

**What are alpha rays?**

These are the rays which are emitted by radium. These rays are atoms of Helium moving at great speed.

## **100. ALPS**

**What are the Alps?**

These are the highest mountains in Europe. They extend from France to Yugoslavia. The highest point is Mt. Blanc, 15781 ft,

## **101. ALTIMETER**

**What is an Altimeter?**

It is an instrument that measures height above sea level.

## **102. ALTITUDE**

**What is Altitude?**

It is the elevation of a place above sea level.

## **103. ALTOMETER**

**What is Altometer?**

It is an instrument for measuring altitude.

## **104. AMALGAM**

**What is an amalgam?**

It is an alloy of another metal with mercury.

## **105. AMAZONS**

**According to legend who were the Amazons?**

According to legend they were a race of war like women in Asia Minor. They were governed by a Queen, and the entire state was run by women.

## **106. AMBER**

**What is Amber?**

It is a fossilised resin. When rubbed it produces electricity.



### **107. AMBULANCE**

**What is ambulance?**

It is a vehicle used for the transport of the wounded and the sick.

### **108. AMBUSH**

**In military terms what is ambush?**

It is a place where forces hide themselves for conducting a surprise attack on the enemy.

### **109. AMEoba**

**What is the peculiarity of the Ameoba?**

It is a creature that has neither parents nor children.

### **110. AMERICA**

**After whom is America named?**

It is named after Amerigo Vespucci an Italian sailor who landed on the American soil in 1497 A.D.

### **111. AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

**What was the American Revolution?**

It was the Revolution in which the American colonies declared their independence. The Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776.

### **112. AMIENS, TREATY OF**

**What was the treaty of Amiens?**

It was the treaty made in 1802 by England with France and Spain. As a result of the treaty England gave up most of the conquests made in the French Revolutionary wars.

### **113. AMMONIA**

**Why is Ammonia a good cleaner?**

Ammonia is an alkali and dissolves fats and oils as if it were a strong soap. It is a gas which can spread everywhere. No part



of the thing to be cleaned escapes from the action of ammonia, and hence the process of cleansing with ammonia is very searching and thorough.

#### **114. AMNESIA**

**What is Amnesia?**

It is inability to remember.

#### **115. AMORTISATION**

**What is amortisation?**

It is the gradual repayment of a debt by means of a sinking fund.

#### **116. AMPERE**

**What is an ampere?**

It is a unit for measuring the rate of flow of an electric current.

#### **117. AMPERE, ANDRE**

**Who was Andre Marie Ampere?**

Andre Maria Ampere (1775—1836) was a French physicist. He made important discoveries in magnetism and electricity. The 'ampere' the unit for the measurement of electric current is named after him.

#### **118. AMPHIBIANS**

**What are amphibians?**

These are animals which can live in water as well as on land. The best known amphibians are: frogs; toads; newts; and salamanders.

#### **119. AMPLITUDE**

**In sound, what is an amplitude?**

It is the extent of the swing of a vibrating particle away from its mean position or its position of rest.

#### **120. AMU DARYA**

**Where is Amu Darya?**

It is a river of Central Asia which was formerly called the



Oxus. It rises in the Pamirs and flows into the Aral Sea after a course of 1600 miles. In the upper reaches it forms the boundary between USSR and Afghanistan.

### **121. AMUR RIVER**

**Where is the Amur River?**

It is a river of East Asia. It is over 2000 miles long and falls in the Okhotsk Sea. For a greater part it forms the boundary between USSR and China.

### **122. ANABASIS**

**In military terms what is anabasis?**

It is an advance into the enemy's country.

### **123. ANABOLISM**

**What is anabolism?**

It is the combination of simpler substances into complex substances.

### **124. ANAGRAM**

**What is an Anagram? Give some examples.**

It is something read backward, a transposition of the letters of a word so as to form a new word.

Some examples are:

- (1) Evil is an enigram for live;
- (2) Sinew is an anagram for wines.

### **125. ANALECTS**

**What are the analects?**

That is the title for the sayings of the Chinese sage Confucius 551—479 BC.

### **126. ANALYSIS**

**In Chemistry what is analysis?**

It is the decomposition of a substance into the constituent parts or elements.



### **127. ANAMOLY**

**What is an anamoly?**

It is a deviation from the common rule.

### **128. ANARCHISM**

**What is Anarchism?**

It is the doctrine that all government is evil, and that therefore all organised authority should be abolished.

### **129. ANATOLIA**

**What is Anatolia?**

It is a mountainous peninsula in Turkey between the Black Sea, the Aegean Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. Its area is 287,117 square miles.

### **130. ANATOMY**

**What is Anatomy and what are its branches?**

It is the science that studies the structure of the human body as learnt by dissection.

The branches are : (1) Morbid Anatomy; (2) Comparative Anatomy; and (3) Microscopic Anatomy.

### **131. ANCIENT HISTORY**

**In history which period is regarded as the period of ancient history?**

AD. It covers the period upto the fall of the Roman empire in 476 AD.

### **132. ANECDOTE**

**What is an anecdote?**

It is a brief account of any happening told generally in an interesting way.

### **133. ANEMOGRAPH**

**What is an Anemograph?**

It is an instrument for recording force and direction of wind.



#### **134. ANGER**

**How is anger aroused?**

It is aroused by situations in which an activity is thwarted by some obstacle, and something is done opposed to one's wish.

#### **135. ANGLE**

**In Geometry how is an angle formed?**

It is formed by the meeting of two lines.

#### **136. ANGLE IRON**

**In architecture, what is an angle iron?**

It is an L shaped iron beam used to strengthen a corner.

#### **137. ANIMALS—AUSTRALIA**

**Which are the animals which are found in Australia and Newzealand only?**

These are:

- (1) Black Swan;
- (2) Kiwi;
- (3) Kookaburra;
- (4) Lyrg bird; and
- (5) Kangaroo.

#### **138. ANIMAL—HEAVIEST BRAIN**

**Which animal has the heaviest brain?**

The Sperm Whale has the heaviest brain which weighs 9200 grams.

#### **139. ANIMAL—LARGEST EYE**

**Which animal has the largest eye?**

The giant squid has the largest eye which measures 15 inches in diameter.

#### **140. ANIMAL—LONGEST HORN**

**Which animal has the longest horns?**

The Argale found in the Pamirs has the longest horns which measure upto 75 inches.



#### **141. ANIMAL—LONGEST EAR**

**Which animal has the longest ear?**

The elephant has the longest ears which measure over a yard each.

#### **142. ANIMALS—LARGEST**

**Among animals which is the largest and the heaviest?**

The largest and the heaviest animal is the whale often weighing about 200 tons.

#### **143. ANIMALS—LONGEST**

**Among animals which is the longest?**

The longest animal is the jelly fish often 200 feet long.

#### **144. ANIMAL—LONGEST LIVED**

**Among animals which is the longest lived?**

Among the animals the longest lived animal is the crocodile, the average life span being 200 years.

#### **145. ANIMALS—SLOWEST**

**Among the animals which is the slowest moving animal?**

The slowest moving animal is the snail which moves at the speed of 58 centimeters an hour.

#### **146. ANIMALS, TALLEST**

**Among the animals which is the tallest?**

Among the animals the tallest is the Giraffe often 26 ft tall.

#### **147. ANIMALS—THICKEST HIDE**

**Among the animals which animal has the thickest hide?**

Among the animals the Hippopotamus has the thickest hide which is 10 inches thick.

#### **148. ANIMALS, THREE EYES**

**Which is the animal with three eyes?**

The 'King Crab' has three eyes.



#### **149. ANIMISM**

**What is Animism?**

It is the belief that all objects in the world have consciousness and that their spirits must be propitiated.

#### **150. ANKARA**

**Where is Ankara?**

It is the capital of Turkey since 1923. Its population is 22 lakh.

#### **151. ANNEALING**

**What is annealing?**

It is heating a substance to bright redness and then allowing it to cool slowly.

#### **152. ANNUNCIATION DAY**

**According to the Christians what is the Annunciation Day?**

The Annunciation Day is March 25, when Gabriel announced to Virgin Mary the forthcoming birth of Jesus Christ.

#### **153. ANOPHELES**

**In Biology what is Anopheles?**

It is the mosquito that causes malaria.

#### **154. ANOSNIC**

**Who is an Anosnic?**

He who lacks the sense of smell.

#### **155. ANOSOMIC**

**If a person is anosomic what does it mean?**

It means that he lacks the sense of smell.

#### **156. ANTARCITICA**

**What is Antarcitica, and what are the main particulars about it?**

Antarcitica is a continent surrounding the South Pole. Its area is 5,400,000 square miles. It is covered with ice, average



thickness of ice being 700 ft. The volume of ice is 8,00,000 cubic miles, 90 percent of the total ice in the world. The lowest recorded temperature is  $-112^{\circ}\text{F}$ . The continent is uninhabited.

### **157. ANTHOLOGY**

**What is an Anthology?**

It is a collection of selected works of various authors in a single work.

### **158. ANTHROPOGRAPHY**

**What is Anthropography?**

It is the science that treats of the geographical distribution of man in the world.

### **159. ANTHROPEGENY**

**What is Anthropegeny?**

It is the science of the development of man.

### **160. ANTHROPOLOGY**

**What is Anthropology and what are its branches?**

It is the science of man.

The branches are:

- (1) Physical Anthropology which studies natural history of man.
- (2) Palaeontology which studies the fossils.
- (3) Cultural Anthropology which studies civilisation.
- (4) Ethnology which studies races.

### **161. ANTHROPOMORPHISM**

**What is Anthropomorphism?**

It is the conception of God as a human being with human attributes.

### **162. ANTHROPOMETRY**

**What is Anthropometry?**

It is the science that deals with the scientific measurement of the human body.



### **163. ANTHROPOPATHY**

**What is Anthropopathy?**

It is the ascription of human feelings and emotions to the Supreme Being.

### **164. ANTIBODIES**

**What are Antibodies?**

These are chemical substances in the blood which fight bacteria and other foreign substances.

### **165. ANTIBIOTIC**

It is a chemical substance produced by a living organism which can stop growth of some disease producing bacteria, viruses and protozo.

### **166. ANTITHESIS**

**In literature what is antithesis?**

It is a figure of speech where ideas are so set out that they are in sharp contrast to each other.

Some examples are:

- (1) To err is human; to forgive divine;
- (2) It's better to rule in hell than to serve in Heaven.

### **167. ANTOLOGY**

**What is Antology?**

It is the study of one's self.

### **168. ANTIPODES**

**What are antipodes? Give an example.**

The antipodes are places on the opposite side of the world to each other.

For example, New Zealand in the South Pacific and Iceland in the Arctic are the antipodes of each other.



## **169. ANTOINETTE**

**Who was Marie Antoinette?**

Marie Antoinette (1755—93) was the Queen of France, the wife of Louis XVI. She was guillotined in the French Revolution.

## **170. ANTS, TALK**

**How do ants talk to one another?**

They talk by means of antennae or feelers projecting from the head.

## **171. ANXIETY**

**What is Anxiety?**

It is a chronic complex emotional state with dread as its most prominent component.

## **172. A.N.Z.U.S. TREATY**

**What is the A.N.Z.U. Treaty?**

It is a tripartite security pact signed on September 1, 1951, between Australia, Newzealand and USA. for mutual defence and security of the Pacific. It is also called the Pacific Treaty.

## **173. AORTA**

**In Physiology what is the Aorta?**

It is the main artery of the human body which carries the blood from the heart to all parts of the body except the lungs.

## **174. APARTHEID**

**What is Apartheid?**

It is the policy of racial segregation adopted by the Government of the Republic of South Africa.

## **175. APENNINES**

**What are the Apennines?**

These are the mountain system traversing the Italian peninsula. The highest point is 9560 ft..



## **176. APERTURE**

**In camera what is the aperture?**

It is the space or opening through which light is admitted to the camera.

## **177. APIDIST**

**Who is an apidist?**

An apidist is he who deals in precious stones.

## **178. APPEAL**

**In law, what is an appeal?**

It is a poem by which a superior authority reviews an order of a subordinate authority.

## **179. APPETITE**

**Why worry and fear spoil the appetite?**

When we are worried or afraid something terrible is on our nerves and the brain is not able to give the signal for re-fuelling the body. Under such circumstances the digestive process is affected and we lose appetite.

## **180. APPLE PIE ORDER**

**What is apple pie order?**

It is extreme neatness.

## **181. APRIL**

**Why is the month of April so named?**

The name is derived from the word 'aperire' meaning 'to open'. It signifies the period when the buds begin to open.

## **182. ACQUANAUTS**

**Who are acquanauts?**

They are under-water explorers.



### **183. AQUARIUM**

**What is an aquarium?**

It is a museum for aquatic animals.

### **184. AQUARIUM, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest aquarium in the world?**

The largest aquarium in the world is the Shedd Aquarium, Chicago, USA.

### **185. AQUATIC ANIMALS**

**Which are the creatures which have their eyes on the tops of their heads.**

The aquatic animals have their eyes on the top of their heads.

### **186. AQUEDUCT**

**Which is the world's longest aqueduct?**

The longest aqueduct is the California Aqueduct 444 miles long.

### **187. ARAB COMMON MARKET**

**What is the Arab Common Market?**

It is the economic organisation of Arab countries set up in 1964 for the free movement of the currency and the products of the member countries within the region.

### **188. ARABIA FELIX**

**What is Arabia Felix?**

It is the coastal strip of Arabia which is fertile.

### **189. ARAB LEAGUE**

**What is the Arab League?**

It is the organisation of Arab countries formed in 1945 with the object of coordinating their political programmes preserving their independence and sovereignty and collaborating in economic, social and cultural affairs. Its headquarters are at Cairo.



## **190. ARAL SEA**

**Where is the Aral Sea?**

It is an inland sea in Central Soviet Russia. Amu Darya and Syr Darya flow into it. Its area is 25000 square miles and the average depth is 50 ft.

## **191. ARARAT**

**According to legend where was Noah's ark stranded after the Great Flood?**

It stranded at Ararat, the highest mountain of Turkey 16,945 ft, at the border of Iran and USSR.

## **192. ARBORETUM**

**What is Arboretum?**

It is a garden planted with trees.

## **193. ARCHAEOLOGY**

**What is Archaeology?**

It is the science of the study of human antiquities.

## **194. ARCHIMEDES' PRINCIPLE**

**What is the Archimedes' principle?**

The principle is that when a body is weighed in air and then in any fluid, the apparent loss in weight is equal to the weight of the fluid displaced.

## **195. ARCHIPELAGO**

**What is an archipelago?**

It is a group of islands.

## **196. ARCHITECTURAL STRUCTURE, OLDEST**

**Which is the oldest architectural structure in the world?**

The 'Pyramids' in Egypt are the oldest architectural structures in the world.



## **197. ARCHIVES**

**What are archives?**

These are public record of historical importance.

## **198. ARC LAMP**

**What is an arc lamp?**

An arc lamp consists of a pair of carbon rods through which a high voltage current is passed. This produces a luminous glow or arc between the poles of the carbon.

## **199. ARCTIC CIRCLE**

**Which countries fall within the Arctic Circle?**

The countries which fall in the Arctic Circle are parts of Greenland; Iceland; Norway; Sweden; USSR; Alaska; and Canada.

## **200. ARCTIC, PEOPLE**

**Who are the people who inhabit the Arctic?**

These are the Eskimos; the Lapps; the Zyrians; the Yakuts; and the Tungus.

## **201. AREOMETER**

**What is Areometer?**

It is an instrument for measuring the specific gravity of fluids.

## **202. ARGENTINA**

**Which country in the world carries a name which means silver?**

The name of Argentina in South America means silver.

## **203. ARGONAUTS**

**Who were the Argonauts?**

They were mythological heroes who went to recover the Golden Fleece.



## **204. ARISTOCRACY**

**What is Aristocracy?**

It is the government of the best.

## **205. ARISTOLOGY**

**What is Aristology?**

It is the science of dining.

## **206. ARITHMETIC**

**What is Arithmetic?**

It is the branch of Mathematics that deals with numerical calculations as in counting, measuring and weighing.

## **207. ARITHMETIC—FUNDAMENTAL OPERATIONS**

**In Arithmetic what are the fundamental operations?**

In Arithmetic, the fundamental operations are:

- (1) Addition;
- (2) Subtraction;
- (3) Multiplication; and
- (4) Division.

## **208. ARMADA, SPANISH**

**In history what was the Spanish Armada?**

It was the naval invasion of England by the Spanish fleet in 1588. The Spanish Armada was defeated by the British.

## **209. ARMED FORCES AWARDS, PAKISTAN**

**What are the Armed Forces Awards in Pakistan?**

These are: Nishan-i-Haider; Hilal-i-Jurat; Sitara-i-Jurat; Sitara-i-Basalat; Tamgha-i-Jurat; Tamgha-i-Basalat; Tamgha-i-Khidmat I; Tamgha-i-Khidmat II; Tamgha-i-Khidmat III; Tamgha-i-Difa (Pakistan) and Pakistan Medal (Republic).



## **210. ARMISTICE**

**What is armistice?**

It is the suspension of hostilities pending the final peace settlement.

## **211. ARMSTRONG, NEIL**

**Who was the first man to land on the moon?**

Neil Armstrong an American was the first man to land on the moon on July 20, 1969.

## **212. ARMY COMMISSIONED RANKS**

**In the Pakistan Army what are the commissioned ranks?**

The commissioned ranks in the Pakistan army are: Second Lieutenant; Lieutenant; Captain; Major; Lt. Colonel; Brigadier; Major-General; Lt-General; General and Field Marshal.

## **213. ARMY, LARGEST**

**Which country has the largest army?**

China has the largest army with a total strength of 25½ lakh.

## **214. ARREST**

**In law what is the implication of the process of arrest?**

The process restrains the liberty of a person in order to make him attend a court of Justice in order to answer a charge against him.

## **215. ART**

**What is 'Art'?**

It is a creative work of man such as painting, drawing, drama etc.

## **216. ARTERY**

**What is an artery?**

It is a blood vessel which carries blood away from the heart to all parts of the body.

## **217. ART GALLERY, LARGEST**

**Which is the world's largest art gallery?**

The largest art gallery is the Art Gallery at Leningrad comprising 322 galleries and housing 30 lakh works of art.



## **218. ARTIFICIAL SATELLITE**

**What is an artificial satellite?**

It is a man made body which when launched reaches the orbit and revolves round the earth.

## **219. ARTILLERY**

**What is artillery?**

These are troops trained in the use of guns.

## **220. ASBESTOS**

**Which is the mineral which can be woven into cloth?**

Asbestos is the mineral which can be woven into cloth. It has fibres which can be woven. The cloth so made is fireproof and firemen wear suits of such cloth.

## **221. ASIA, AREA AND POPULATION**

**What is the area/population of Asia?**

The area is 17, 153,000.

According to the latest available figures the population is 188.7 crore.

## **222. ASIA, COUNTRIES**

**Which are the countries of Asia?**

The countries are: Afghanistan; Bahrain; Burma; Cambodia; Ceylon; China; India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Israel; Japan; Jordan; North Korea; South Korea; Kuwait; Laos; Lebanon; Malaysia; Maldiv Islands; Mangolia; Muscat; Nepal; Pakistan; Bangla Desh, Phillipines; Qatar; Saudi Arabia; Singapur; South Yemen; USSR; Syria; Thailand; Turkey; North Vietnam; South Vietnam; and Yemen.

## **223. ASIAH**

**Who was Asiah?**

She was the wife of the Pharoah of Egypt. She brought up Moses. According to the Muslims she is numbered among the



four perfect women, the other three being Mary, Khadija, and Fatima.

#### **224. ASIA MINOR**

**What is Asia Minor ?**

It is another name for Anatolia in Turkey. It is crossed by the Taurus mountain.

#### **225. ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK**

**What is the Asian Development Bank ?**

It is the Asian counterpart of the Inter-American Development Bank, and the African Development Bank. Its object is to promote intra-regional trade. Its headquarters are at Manila.

#### **226. AS IT HAPPENED**

**Who wrote the book "As it happened" ?**

It was written by Clement Richard Attlee at one time Prime Minister of Great Britain. It is his autobiography.

#### **227. ASPHALT**

**Which is the largest lake of natural asphalt in the world ?**

It is the lake in the island of Trinidad in the West Indies. It covers about 100 acres and is 100 ft. deep.

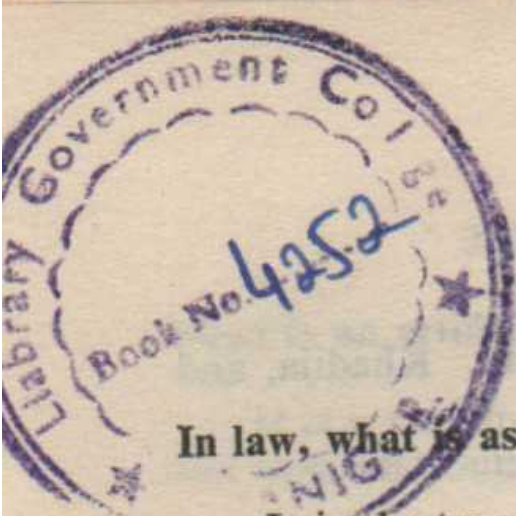
#### **228. ASSASSINATIONS—AMERICAN PRESIDENTS**

**Who were the USA Presidents who were assassinated ?**

These were:

- (1) Abraham Lincoln assassinated on 14th April 1865;
- (2) James Abraham Garfield assassinated on 19th September 1881;
- (3) William McKinley assassinated on 14th September, 1901; and
- (4) John Fitzgerald Kennedy assassinated on 22nd November, 1963,





## **229. ASSIGNMENT**

**In law, what is assignment?**

It is the transfer of property rights by agreement.

## **230. ASTEROIDS**

**What are Asteroids?**

These are minor planets. They circle the sun between the paths of the Mars and the Jupiter. The asteroids are believed to be the remains of some larger planet.

## **231. ASTROLOGY**

**What is Astrology?**

It is the study which interprets celestial phenomena as having a bearing upon mundane affairs.

## **232. ASTROLABE**

**What is an astrolabe?**

It is a medieval scientific instrument for taking altitudes, observing the sun by day and the stars at night, and used for telling the time and finding the latitude.

## **233. ASTROMETRY**

**What is Astrometry?**

It is the science which determines the magnitude of stars.

## **234. ASTRONAUTICS**

**What is Astronautics?**

It is the science of flight through space.

## **235. ASTROPHYSICS**

**What is Astrophysics?**

It is the study of the physical components of stars by means of the spectroscope.



## 236. ASSUR-BANI-PAL

**Who was Assur-bani-pal?**

Assur-bani-pal (669—626 BC) was the king of ancient Assyria. Under him Assyria rose to heights of great glory.

## 237. ASSYRIA

**What was Assyria?**

It was an ancient empire with capital at Nimrod on the Tigris. It rose to fame under Tiglath Pileser I in the 12th century BC. It rose to further importance under Assur-bani-pal.

## 238. ATATURK, KAMAL

**Who was Kamal Ataturk?**

Kamal Ataturk (1880—1938) was the Founder of Modern Turkey.

## 239. ATHIESM

**What is Athiesm, and what are its various schools?**

Athiesm is the denial of God.

The various schools are:

- (1) Dogmatic athiesm which asserts that there is no God;
- (2) Sceptical athiesm which denies the possibility of knowing God;
- (3) Critical athiesm which holds that evidence is not adequate to prove the existence of God;
- (4) Philosophical athiesm which holds that we cannot have a proper concept of God; and
- (5) Speculative athiesm which denies the possibility of demonstrating God's existence.

## 240. ATHIEST

**Who is an athiest, and how is he distinguished from an agnostic?**

An athiest is one who denies the existence of God. An agnostic is one who takes a neutral view and says that he does not know.



## **241. ATLANTIC OCEAN**

**What are the main particulars about the Atlantic Ocean?**

It is the world's second largest ocean. It separates Europe and Africa from North and South America. It has an area of 32 million square miles. At its narrowest it is 2000 miles wide. The greatest depth recorded is the Milwaukee deep 30,250 ft in the Caribbean Sea.

## **242. ATLANTIS**

**What was the Atlantis?**

According to legend it was a continent to the west of Spain which was in the ancient past submerged in the Atlantic Ocean.

## **243. ATMOSPHERE**

**What is the atmosphere and what is its importance?**

It is the envelope of air surrounding the earth. It extends to a height of 50/60 miles. It regulates the flow of solar energy; it is responsible for heat and precipitation; and it supports life. Without atmosphere the earth would be a dead body.

## **244. ATMOSPHERE—PARTS**

**What are the parts of the atmosphere?**

The parts are:

- (1) the troposphere which extends to 6/10 miles height;
- (2) the stratosphere extending beyond troposphere upto 50 miles;
- (3) the tropopause the transitional belt between the troposphere and the stratosphere; and
- (4) the ionosphere, the uppermost layer containing electrons and ions.

## **245. ATMOSPHERE, WEIGHT**

**What is the weight of the earth's atmosphere?**

The estimated weight is 5,809,000,000,000,000 tons.



## **246. ATOLL**

**What is an atoll?**

It is a coral island consisting of a coral belt enclosing a central lake. The Christmas Island in the Pacific is the atoll with the largest land area.

## **247. ATOM**

**What is an atom, and what is its structure?**

An atom is the smallest particle of an element capable of showing the properties of the element.

Within an atom there is a central nucleus surrounded by shells of electrons. In the nucleus are positively charged protons and neutral neutrons. Each electron has a negative charge.

The atomic number of an element is the sum of the electrons in the shells surrounding any of the atoms.

The mass number of an atom is the sum of the number of protons and neutrons in the nucleus.

Different isotopes are atoms of the same element possessing different mass number.

## **248. ATOM BOMB**

**In the second world war, where was the atom bomb dropped?**

The atom bomb was dropped at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan.

## **249. ATOM-TEMPERATURE**

**What is the temperature at which the nucleus of an atom split?**

It splits at the temperature of 4 crore degree Centigrade.

## **250. ATOMIC PLANT, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest atomic plant in the world?**

It is the Savannah River Plant, South Carolina, USA covering an area of 315 square miles.



### **251. ATOMIC POWER STATION**

**Which was the first atomic power station in the world?**

It was the Calder Hall, Cumberland, England opened in 1956.

### **252. ATOMIC POWER STATION, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest atomic power station in the world?**

It is the 1180 million watt plant at Wylfa, Anglesey, North Wales.

### **253. ATOMIC TREATY**

**What is the Atomic Treaty 1971?**

The treaty signed on February 1971 by the various nations provides for banning operating nuclear weapons from international sea beds.

### **254. ATOMS—NUMBER**

**Give some idea about the number of atoms in a given weight of a substance?**

If the atoms were to be counted at the rate of one atom per second it would take ten thousand million million years to count all the atoms in just one gram of Hydrogen.

### **255. ATOM SMASHER**

**What is an atom smasher?**

It is a machine where by bombarding, certain elements become radio active and release energy.

### **256. ATTITUDE**

**In Physiology what is an attitude?**

It is a more or less stable set of disposition of opinion.

### **257. AUDIOMETER**

**What is audiometer?**

It is an instrument for measuring acuteness of hearing.



## **258. AUDITORY CELLS**

**In the innermost membrane of the human ear what is the number of auditory cells?**

The number of such cells is 13,000.

## **259. AUGEAN STABLES**

**What were the augean stables?**

According to Greek mythology King Augeas had a stable of 3000 oxen, which had not been cleansed for 30 years. Heracles was required to cleanse it and he did so by diverting the course of a river to run through the stable.

To cleanse the augean stables means to clear away accumulated mass of corruption.

## **260. AURICLE**

**What is Auricle?**

It is upper chamber of the heart which receives blood from the veins.

## **261. AURORA**

**What are Aurora Australis and Aurora Borealis, and how do they occur?**

Aurora Australis are southern lights and Aurora Borealis are northern lights.

These are spectacular display of bands of light produced in the upper atmosphere 60 miles above the earth as a result of the earth's magnetic field having been breached temporarily by atomic bombardment by the sun. These make the Oxygen atoms in the atmosphere luminous.

## **262. AUSTEN, JANE**

**Who was Jane Austen?**

Jane Austen (1775—1817) was an English novelist. Her well known novels are: "Pride and Prejudice"; "Sense and Sensibility"; and "Emma".

## **263. AUTOGRAPH**

**What is an Autograph?**

It is something written in one's own handwriting.



## **264. AUTOMATION**

### **What is Automation?**

It is the process by which machines replace human beings as the controller of other machines.

## **265. AUTOMOBILE**

### **What is an automobile?**

It is a vehicle propelled by an engine within it.

## **266. AUTOPSY**

### **What is Autopsy?**

It is the dissection and examination of a dead body.

## **267. AUTOSUGGESTION**

### **What is autosuggestion?**

It is causing ideas to be fixed in one's mind, e.g. thinking one's self to be ill and so becoming ill.

## **268. AVALANCHE**

### **What is an avalanche?**

It is a mass of snow and ice which slides rapidly down mountain slopes.

## **269. AVICENNA**

### **Who was Avicenna?**

Avicenna or Ibn-i-Sina was a Muslim philosopher and physician. He died in 1027 A.D. He wrote 'The Canon of Medicine', and 'Book of Recovery'.

## **270. AVOGDARO'S HYPOTHESIS**

### **In Chemistry what is Avogdaro's hypothesis?**

It is the concept that equal volumes of all gases under the same conditions of temperature and pressure contain the same number of molecules.



## **271. AWARDS**

**Which are the highest military awards in Pakistan; UK; USA; USSR and India?**

These are:

- (1) Pakistan: Nishan-i-Haidar;
- (2) UK: Victoria Cross;
- (3) USA: Congressional Medal of Honour;
- (4) USSR: Gold Star; and
- (5) India: Param Vir Chakar.

## **272. AXIOM**

**What is an axiom?**

It is a proposition or principle which has not been subjected to a rigorous formal proof but is widely accepted as true and self-evident.

## **273. AZORES**

**What are the Azores?**

These are a group of islands in the Atlantic Ocean 900 miles west of Portugal. The islands have been colonised by the Portuguese.

## **274. AZOV, SEA OF**

**Where is the Sea of Azov?**

It is an arm of the Black Sea, separated from it by Crimea peninsula. It is the least saline of all seas in the world, the percentage of salinity being one only.

# **B**

## **275. BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY**

**Which period in history is known as the period of Babylonian captivity?**

It was the period spent by the Jews in Babylon after Jerusalem was captured by Nebuchanezzar the Babylonian emperor in 586 BC. The period lasted for 70 years till Babylon was captured by Cyrus and the Jews were allowed to return to Jerusalem.



## **276. BACK LEGS**

**Which creatures have longer back legs than the front ones?**

Alligators and crocodiles have back legs longer than the front ones.

## **277. BACTERIA**

**How small are the bacteria?**

They are so small that more than 1500 of them will lie side by side on the head of a pin.

## **278. BACTERIA, MULTIPLICATION**

**At what rate do the bacteria multiply?**

A bacteria becomes an adult in 20 minutes.

## **279. BADMINTON**

**Why is badminton so called?**

It is so called because it was first devised in 1863 at Badminton Hall Gloucestershire, England the seat of the Duke of Beaufort.

## **280. BADMINTON COURT**

**What are the measurements of a badminton court?**

The measurements are:

- (1) Double: 44 ft by 20 ft.
- (2) Single: 44 ft by 17 ft.

## **281. BAGHDAD**

**Where is Baghdad?**

It is the capital of Iraq. It extends for 15 miles along both banks of the Tigris. Its population is about 10 lakh.

## **282. BAIKAL LAKE**

**Where is the Baikal lake?**

It is 400 miles long lake of Southern Siberia covering an area of 12000 square miles. It is the world's deepest lake 5700 ft.



### **283. BAIL**

**In law, what is bail?**

It is the security taken by the court that a person charged will attend at a future date to answer the charge.

### **284. BAKING**

**What is Baking?**

It is the cooking of food containing moisture which is evaporated.

### **285. BAKING POWDER**

**How does baking powder make a cake rise?**

Baking powder consists of an acid and a bicarbonate. When mixed soda and acid react and carbon dioxide is liberated, the gas expands during cooking, and this makes the mixture rise.

### **286. BALANCE**

**What is a balance?**

It is an instrument used for weighing.

### **287. BALANCED DIET**

**What is balanced diet?**

It is food which includes all the necessary nutrients in proper proportions.

### **288. BALANCE OF NATURE**

**What is the concept of the balance of Nature?**

It is the concept of the independence of all living things.

### **289. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS**

**In a country what is the balance of payments?**

It is the difference between the value of imports and exports.



## **290. BALANCE OF POWER**

**What is the doctrine of the balance of power?**

It is the policy of preventing one nation from gaining so much power that it will be in a position to threaten the security of another nation. The policy was formulated at the Congress of Vienna in 1815.

## **291. BALANCE SHEET**

**In a company what is the balance sheet?**

It is a statement of the economic resources or assets of an organisation and the financial claims upon the value of those assets.

## **292. BALFOUR DECLARATION**

**What was the Balfour Declaration?**

It was a communication made on 2nd November 1917 by A.J. Balfour, Foreign Secretary Great Britain to the Jews declaring British support for the establishment of a Jewish National Home in Palestine.

## **293. BALKAN PENINSULA**

**Which countries form the Balkan peninsula?**

These countries are: Rumania; Bulgaria; Greece; Albania; and Yugoslavia.

## **294. BALKAN WARS**

**What were the Balkan wars?**

These were the wars fought in 1912-13 between Turkey and the Balkan countries, with a view to expel Turkey from Europe. As a result of these wars the Balkan countries became independent, but Turkey was able to retain Constantinople.

## **295. BALLET**

**What is a ballet?**

It is a play in which the performers tell the story by dancing, instead of speaking.



## **296. BALLISTICS**

**What is Ballistics?**

It is the science of motion and propulsion of projectiles.

## **297. BALLOT, SECRECY OF**

**What is the principle of the secrecy of ballot?**

The principle is that in an election no one should know how a particular voter cast his vote.

## **298. BALL POINT**

**Why the ink in the ball point does not spill out?**

That is because at the tip is a tiny round ball which keeps the ink from spilling out.

## **299. BALSA**

**What is balsa and what are its characteristics?**

Balsa is a tree of tropical America. Its wood is the lightest wood in the world, even lighter than cork.

## **300. BALTIC SEA**

**What is the Baltic Sea?**

It is an arm of the Atlantic Ocean indenting North Europe surrounded by Sweden, Finland, Poland, USSR, Germany, and Denmark. The area of the sea is 160,000 square miles.

## **301. BAMBOOS**

**How high is a bamboo tree, and what is its rate of growth?**

Bamboos attain the height of 130 ft. Bamboos grow rapidly at the rate of 2 ft per day.

## **302. BANANAS**

**Why are bananas picked green?**

That is because if these are to ripen on the tree the skin would break open and insects would crawl in upon the fruit and spoil it.



### **303. BANGKOK**

**Where is Bangkok?**

It is the capital of Thailand with a population of 23 lakh. It is known for its ornate Buddhist temples, the most well known being 200 ft high pagoda of Wat Chiagong.

### **304. BANK BUILDING**

**Which is the largest/highest bank building in the world?**

The largest bank building is 813 ft high Chase Building, New York, 64 stories. The bank vault measures 350 ft by 100 ft.

The highest bank building is 'The Forest National Bank', Chicago, 60 stories, 850 ft high.

### **305. BANK DEPOSIT**

**What is bank deposit?**

It is the amount to the credit of a person in a bank.

### **306. BANK, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest bank in the world?**

It is the UN World Bank, Washington with an authorised share capital of 2700 million dollars.

### **307. BANK OVERDRAFT**

**What is a bank overdraft?**

It is a loan from a bank made on current account.

### **308. BARCELONA**

**Where is the city of Barcelona, and what are the main things to be seen there?**

Barcelona is a city in Spain. The main things to be seen there are the 'statue of Columbus', and the replica of the boat "Santa Maria" in which Columbus set sail for the New World.



### 309. BARKHAUSEN EFFECT

**In magnetism what is 'Barkhausen effect'?**

It is the fact that a ferro magnetic material increases its magnetisation in a series of jumps rather than continuously as the magnetising force is increased.

### 310. BAROGRAPH

**What is a barograph?**

It is an instrument which measures and records changes in air pressure.

### 311. BAROTITIS

**What is barotitis?**

It is inflammation of the ear caused by exposure to extremely low barometric pressures.

### 312. BASCULE

**What is bascule?**

It is bridge of which one or both ends lift up thereby opening in the middle so that ships may pass.

### 313. BASE METAL

**What is a base metal?**

It is a metal which is easily oxidised when heated in air. Copper, lead and zinc are base metals as they get easily oxidised. Gold and silver are not base metals as they do not get oxidised.

### 314. BATTALION

**What is a battalion?**

It is a military tactical unit of command consisting of about 1000 men under a Lt-Colonel.

### 315. BAYONET

**Why is a bayonet so named?**

It is so named because it was first manufactured in Bayonne in France.



### **316. BEARD, LONGEST**

**What is the record for the longest beard?**

In recorded history the longest beard was that of Hans Langseth (1846—1927) of Norway whose beard at the time of his death was  $17\frac{1}{2}$  ft long.

### **317. BEAUTY**

**What is beauty?**

It is an inherent quality in the object which pleases the ear, the eyes, and the mind.

### **318. BEAUTY, KEATS**

**How did Keats sing of beauty?**

He said:

“A thing of beauty is a joy for ever;

Its loveliness increases;

It will never pass into nothingness.”

### **319. BECQUEREL**

**Who was Antoine Henri Becquerel?**

Antoine Henri Becquerel (1852—1908) was a French scientist. He discovered rays emitted by radio-active substances.

### **320. BEDOUINS**

**Who are Bedouins?**

They are the Arab nomads of the deserts of North Africa and Arabia. They keep moving about and rear camels, goats, and sheep.

### **321. BEE STING**

**Why does a bee die, when it stings?**

The sting is barged or hooked. It remains stuck in the flesh and soft parts of the bee's body will pull off with the sting. The loss of these parts prove fatal to the bees which die.



## **322. BEHAVIOUR**

**In psychology what is behaviour?**

It is the total response which an organism makes to any situation.

## **323. BEHAVIOURISM**

**What is behaviourism?**

It is a school of psychology which considers that behaviour is the all important basis of psychology and that it can be studied and observed in much the same manner as any other physical phenomena. The main work on the subject is J.B. Watson's 'Behaviourism'.

## **324. BELGIUM**

**Why is Belgium so named?**

It takes its name from the ancient Celtic people called the Belgae.

## **325. BELIEF**

**What is belief?**

It is an attitude involving the recognition or acceptance of something as real.

## **326. BELL, ALEXANDER GRAHAM**

**Who was Alexander Graham Bell?**

Alexander Graham Bell (1849—1922) was a British scientist. He invented the telephone.

## **327. BELL, HEAVIEST**

**Which is the heaviest bell in the world?**

It is the 'Tsar Kolokol' at Moscow cast in 1733 weighing 216 tons; 22 ft 8" in diameter and 19 ft high.

## **328. BELL METAL**

It is an alloy containing 4 parts of copper and 1 part of tin.



### 329. BENELUX

**What is Benelux?**

It is the common customs union of Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg formed to remove all tariff restrictions among these countries for mutual economic welfare.

### 330. BERGSON

**Who was Henri Bergson?**

Henri Bergson (1859—1941) was a French philosopher. He formulated the theory of 'elan vital'—a spirit of energy and life that moves all things.

### 331. BERING SEA

**Where is the Bering Sea?**

It is the northern most arm of the Pacific Ocean, and is also connected with the Arctic Ocean. It separates Alaska from Siberia.

### 332. BERMEDIDES FEAST

**What is a Bermecides feast?**

It is a feast where there is nothing to eat.

### 333. BERNHARDT

**Who was Sarah Bernhardt?**

Sarah Bernhardt (1844—1923) was the greatest tragic actor of her day. She was a French national.

### 334. BERNOULLI

**Who was Bernoulli?**

Bernoulli (1700—1782) was a Swiss mathematician. He discovered the principle that for a horizontal flow of a liquid or gas the sum of the pressure and the kinetic energy per unit volume of the liquid or gas is constant.



### **335. BERRY**

**What is a berry?**

It is a fruit with fleshy ovary enveloping the hard seeds. Grapes, oranges and tomatoes are berries.

### **336. BIAS**

**In psychology what is bias?**

It is an attitude for and against a particular matter.

### **337. BICYCLE**

**Who invented the bicycle, and what are the main points about the vehicle?**

The bicycle was invented by Kirkpattick Macmillan in 1838. It is a poor man's vehicle. It can carry upto a dozen time its own weight. Its speed is six times greater than that of a running man. It can be moved on all kinds of roads and can be packed anywhere.

There are 8 crore bicycles in the world.

In 1962 a speed of 120 miles an hour was attained on a bicycle.

### **338. BICYCLE FACTORY**

**Which is the largest bicycle factory in the world?**

It is the Raleigh Industries Ltd, Nottingham, England which produces 20 lakh bicycles every year.

### **339. BICYCLE-MOTION**

**How does a moving bicycle keep upright?**

That is because of the law of motion that a moving thing will continue moving unless acted upon by some force.

### **340. BILLETING**

**In military what is billeting?**

It is the stationing of troops in a locality where food and lodging are to be provided by the civil population.



### **341. BILL OF LADING**

**What is a bill of lading?**

It is a document of title to goods received for shipment.

### **342. BILL OF RIGHTS**

**What is a bill of rights?**

It is an official declaration of the fundamental rights of the people.

### **343. BINOMIAL**

**In Algebra what is a binomial?**

It is an expression consisting of two terms separated by a plus or minus sign.

### **344. BIO-CHEMISTRY**

**What is bio-chemistry?**

It is the science that studies chemical changes in living things.

### **345. BIO-DYNAMICS**

**What is bio-dynamics?**

It is the science that investigates the energy and vital forces of living things.

### **346. BIOLOGY**

**What is Biology?**

It is the science of living things.

### **347. BIOMETRY**

**What is biometry?**

It is the application of mathematical methods to biological problems.

### **348. BIOSPHERE**

**What is Biosphere?**

It is that part of the earth in which organic life exists.



### 349. BIRD, FASTEST FLYING

**Which is the fastest flying bird?**

The swift is the fastest flying bird. It can fly at the rate of 400 miles an hour.

### 350. BIRDS, KINDS OF

**What are the main kinds of birds?**

There are two main kinds, namely:—

(1) Carinatae, those having the power of flight; and

(2) Ratitae, those which do not fly.

### 351. BIRDS, LARGEST

**Among the birds which is the largest?**

Among the birds, the largest is the Ostrich.

### 352. BIRDS OF PREY

**Which are the birds of prey?**

These are the birds that feed on the meat of other birds or small animals.

The birds of prey include hawks, falcons, and eagles. These birds have hooked beaks, keen vision, and outstanding powers of flight.

### 353. BIRD, WINGLESS

**Which is the bird which is wingless?**

Kiwi found in Newzealand has no wings.

### 354. BIRTH RATE

**What is the birth rate in the world and some important countries?**

The birth rate of the world is 34 per mille (thousand persons). On an average there are 100 births in the world every minute.

The highest birth rate is in Ivory Coast where the birth rate is 56 per mille.



In Pakistan the birth rate is 51 per mille.

The countries with low birth rates are: Japan 19; USSR 18; Canada 18; USA 17; and Hungary 14 per mille.

### **355. BIVOUC?**

**In military what is bivouac?**

It is the resting of soldiers in open air instead of under cover in the camps.

### **356. BHARAT RATNA**

**In India what is Bharat Ratna?**

It is India's highest national award. It is awarded for exceptional work for the advancement of art, literature, and science and in recognition of public services.

### **357. BLACK DEATH**

**What was the black death?**

It was the plague epidemic which occurred in the 14th century and caused many deaths.

### **358. BLACK MARKET**

**What is black market?**

It is the buying or selling of goods at prices above the prices fixed by the Government.

### **359. BLANK VERSE**

**What is blank verse?**

It is unrhymed verse.

### **360. BLINKING**

**What is the duration of the blinking of eyes?**

Eyes blink once every six seconds.

### **361. BLIZZARD**

**What is a blizzard?**

It is a severe snow storm.



### **362. BLOOD**

**What is blood and what are its functions?**

Blood is a fluid called plasma in which myriads of small bodies called corpuscles float.

Blood carries food and energy to all parts of the body it regulates the temperature of the body; it carries away the wastes and it fights the attacks of the bacteria of diseases.

The weight of blood is  $\frac{1}{18}$ th of the total weight of the body.

In 24 hours the blood travels 168,800,000 miles in the body.

### **363. BLOOD AND IRON**

**Who laid down the Blood and Iron policy?**

The policy was laid down by the German statesman 'Bismarck' who declared "The great questions of the day will not be settled by resolution and majority votes but by blood and iron."

### **364. BLOTting PAPER**

**Why does blotting paper blot ink?**

The blotting paper is porous and consists of a number of capillaries. The ink is sucked up into these capillaries by virtue of surface tension, and thereby the ink is absorbed.

### **365. BLOW PIPE**

**What is a blow pipe?**

It is a lamp from which air is blown out under pressure so as to give a small area of a very hot flame.

### **366. BLUE BIRD**

**Who is a blue bird?**

He is a man who marries and then murders his wife.

### **367. BLUE GIANTS**

**In space what are blue giants?**

These are highly luminous and hot galaxies situated almost



on the outer limits of the universe and giving out strong blue and ultra violet light.

### **368. BLUE RIBBON**

**What does 'Blue ribbon' imply?**

The Blue ribbon implies the highest honour or prize attainable in any field of competition.

### **369. BLUE STOCKING**

**Who is a blue stocking?**

The term denotes a learned literary woman.

### **370. BLUE TRAIN**

**In which country does the 'Blue Train' run?**

It runs in France.

### **371. BLUSH**

**When we blush, why do we grow red in the face?**

When we blush because of a sudden emotion such as embarrassment, a sense of shame or pleasure, the very small blood vessels just below the surface of the skin become larger. As these blood vessels are full of blood the skin looks red.

### **372. BLURB**

**In a book what is a blurb?**

It is the synopsis of the book and the details about the author which appear on the wrapper of the book.

### **373. BODLEIAN LIBRARY**

**Where is the Bodleian Library?**

It is the celebrated library of Oxford University. It was founded by Thomas Bodley and hence the name.

### **374. BOERS**

**Who are the Boers?**

They are the descendants of the Dutch settlers in South Africa.



### **375. BOER WAR**

**What was the Boer war?**

It was the war fought in 1899—1902 between England and the Boers—the joint forces of Transvaal and Orange Free State.

### **376. BOHEMIA**

**What is Bohemia?**

It is the western part of Czechoslovakia.

### **377. BOHEMIAN**

**Who is a Bohemian?**

He is a roving care free artist who leads an unconventional life.

### **378. BOILING POINT**

**What is the boiling point and how is it affected by pressure?**

Boiling point is the temperature at which a liquid boils.

At that point the pressure of the vapour is equal to the pressure of the atmosphere. Under increased pressure the boiling point rises and under low pressure, as on the top of a mountain, it is lower.

### **379. BOLEYN, ANNE**

**Who was Anne Boleyn?**

Anne Boleyn (1507—1536) was the Queen of Henry VIII. She was the mother of Elizabeth I. In order to marry her, Henry VIII became a protestant. She was executed in 1536 having been condemned for adultery.

### **380. BOMBERS**

**What are bombers?**

These are large air craft which carry bombs or missiles.

### **381. BONN**

**Where is Bonn?**

It is the capital of West Germany. It lies on the bank of the river Rhine.



### **382. BOOM**

**What is Boom?**

It is a sudden increase of activity in business.

### **383. BOREDOM**

**What is boredom?**

It is a condition of wandering attention and impaired working efficiency brought about by monotony and want of interest.

### **384. BORING, DEEPEST**

**Which is the deepest boring on the earth's crust?**

It is the Daden gas well, Okhlahoma 659 miles deep.

### **385. BOTANICAL GARDEN**

**What is a botanical garden? Name some important botanical gardens in the world?**

A botanical garden is a garden with various species of plants.

Some of the important gardens are: Royal Botanical Gardens, London; Pisa; Leiden; Amsterdam; and New York.

### **386. BOTANY**

**What is botany, and what are its branches?**

Botany is the science of plants.

The branches of Botany are:

- (1) Plant Anatomy which studies the structure of plants;
- (2) Ecology which studies the distribution of plants;
- (3) Paleobotany, which is the study of plant evolution on the basis of fossils;
- (4) Plant Physiology which studies the way plants breathe and make food; and
- (5) Plant Pathology which studies the diseases of plants.



### **387. BOTSWANA**

**Where is Botswana?**

It is a country in South Africa. It was formerly known as Bechuanaland. It became independent in 1966. Its capital is Gaborone.

### **388. BOUNCE**

**Why does a falling ball bounce up?**

A ball on falling to the ground is slightly deformed. It tries to recover its original position, and the earth pushes it up to enable it regain its original position.

### **389. BOXING**

**What is boxing?**

It is the sport of fighting with gloves on the fists.

### **390. BOYCOTT**

**What does boycott mean, and what is the origin of the word?**

It denotes refusal to have any dealing. The word is named after Charles Cunningham Boycott (1832—97) who was ostracised by the Irish insurgents in 1880.

### **391. BOYLE'S LAW**

**What is Boyle's law?**

The law is that temperature remaining constant, the volume of a given quantity of any gas is inversely proportional to the pressure upon the gas.

### **392. BRAHMPUTRA**

**Where is the Brahmaputra river?**

It rises in the Tibet and flows through Tibet, Assam, and Bangla Desh. It is 1800 miles long and falls in the Bay of Bengal.

### **393. BRAIN**

**What is the number of cells in the human brain?**

There are 15 billion cells in the brain.



### **394. BRANDENBURG GATE**

**What is the Brandenburg gate?**

It is the main gate between East and West Berlin.

### **395. BRASS**

**What is brass?**

Brass is an alloy of copper and zinc in the ratio of 2 :1.

### **396. BRASS HATS**

**Why do fire fighters wear polished brass hats?**

That is because radiated heat is reflected by polished surface, and polished hats protect the wearer from fire.

### **397. BREAK, LEG AND OFF**

**In Cricket what is leg-break and off-break?**

A break is a ball in cricket which after delivery on touching the ground turns either left or right. If it turns towards the left of the bowler it is termed as leg-break and if towards the right it is off-break.

### **398. BREATH**

**Why is one's breath visible in the cold weather?**

In the cold weather the temperature of the earth is higher than the temperature of the atmosphere. Coming in contact with the atmosphere the breath gets condensed, and becomes visible.

### **399. BREN GUN**

**Why is bren gun so called?**

It is so called because it was originally made in Bren in Czechoslovakia.

### **400. BRIDGE, LONGEST**

**Which is the longest bridge in the world?**

It is the Pontchartrain causeway in Louisiana USA, 126000 ft. long.



#### 401. BRIDGE, LONGEST SPAN

Which is the bridge with the longest span?

It is the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, New York, 6690 ft. long.

#### 402. BRIDGE (OF) SIGHS

Where is the bridge of sighs?

It is in Venice. It is so called because it faced the prison and the persons to be executed had to cross the bridge on their way to the execution ground.

#### 403. BRIDGES, ROBERT

Who was Robert Bridges?

Robert Bridges (1844—1930) was poet laureate of England from 1913 to 1930. 'A Paasser-by' is his finest lyric.

#### 404. BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

Which countries are included in the British Commonwealth?

The countries included are: Northern Ireland; Canada; Australia; Newzealand; Trinidad; Tobago; Mauritius; Fiji; Malta; Barbados; Jamaica; India; Malaysia; Cyprus; Ghana; Niferia; Uganda; Zambia; Tanzania; Kenya; Singapore; Malawi; Bots-wana; Lesotho; Swaziland; Guyana; Gambia; Sierra Leone; Nauru; Western Samoa; Tonga; Sri Lanka; and Bangla Desh.

#### 405. BROADWAY

Which is the most famous street in New York?

It is the Broadway.

#### 406. BRONTE, CHARLOTTE

Who was Charlotte Bronte?

Charlotte Bronte (1816—1855) was an English novelist. Her best known novel is 'Jane Eyre'.

#### 407. BRONZE

What is bronze?

It is an alloy containing 95 parts of copper, 4 parts of tin, and 1 part of zinc.



#### **408. BRONZE AGE**

**Which period in history was the bronze age?**

The period was from 2500 to 1500 BC.

#### **409. BROWN STUDY**

**What is a brown study?**

It is a reverie.

#### **410. BRUSSELS**

**Where is Brussels?**

It is the capital of Belgium. Here are the headquarters of the European Common Market.

#### **411. BUBBLE**

**Why does a bubble blow out?**

A bubble has two surfaces, one inside and the other outside. Water is drained from the upper layer and that makes the bubble blow.

#### **412. BUCHAREST**

**Where is Bucharest?**

Bucharest is the capital of Rumania. It owes much of its industrial importance to the Ploesti oilfield with which it is connected by a pipe line.

#### **413. BUDAPEST**

**Where is Budapest?**

It is the capital of Hungary. It is situated on the Danube. It consists of two parts Buda on the right bank, and Pest on the left bank of the Danube.

#### **414. BUILDING, TALLEST**

**Which is the tallest building in the world?**

It is the Sear's building in Chicago 1550 ft high.



#### **415. BULL DOZER**

**What is a bull dozer?**

It is a machine like an army tank with a large plate in front used to push masses of earth in road making and clearing.

#### **416. BULLION**

**What is bullion?**

It is uncoined gold and silver in mass.

#### **417. BURGLARY**

**In law what is burglary?**

It is the crime of breaking into and entering the dwelling house of another with intention to rob.

#### **418. BURMA ROAD**

**What is the Burma road?**

It is 700 miles long highway between Burma and China built in 1937-38. It served as a vital supply route during world war II.

#### **419. BURNING**

**What is burning?**

It is the process that takes place when some other substance combines very rapidly with Oxygen.

#### **420. BURUNDI**

**Where is Burundi?**

It is a country in South Africa. It was formerly known as Urundi and was a Belgian protectorate. It became independent in 1962. The capital is Bujumbura.

#### **421. BUSY BALLOT LAW**

**What is Busy Ballot Law?**

The law is that if an observer stands with his back to the wind the atmospheric pressure would be lower on his left hand than on his right.



#### **422. BUTTER**

**How is butter produced?**

It is made from the cream of milk by churning. About three gallons of milk produce one pound of butter.

#### **423. BYE**

**In Cricket what is a Bye?**

It is a run made from a ball bowled but not touched by the batsman.

#### **424. BYLAW**

**What is a bylaw?**

It is a regulation of local civic character made by a local body.

#### **425. BYRON**

**Who was George Gordon Byron?**

George Gordon Byron (1788—1824) was a British romantic poet. His famous poems are 'Childe Harold', and 'Don Juan'.

### **C**

#### **426. CADET**

**Who is a cadet?**

A cadet is a young man studying or qualifying for a commission in the armed forces.

#### **427. CALCULUS**

**What is calculus concerned with?**

It is concerned with the mathematical investigation of relationships between infinitesimal changes of varying quantities.

#### **428. CALCULUS, INFINITESIMAL**

**What is infinitesimal calculus?**

It is a way of making calculations about quantities which are continually changing, e.g. the speed of a falling stone, or the volume of a gas as it is being compressed.



#### **429. CALCUTTA**

**Where is Calcutta?**

It is the capital of West Bengal in India. It is the largest city in India with a population of 56 lakh.

#### **430. CALENDERING**

**In the manufacture of paper what is calendering?**

It is the process of passing the paper over smooth rollers which give it a smooth surface.

#### **431. CALIFORNIA**

**Which state in USA is called the 'Sunshine state'?**

The state of California is called the 'sunshine state'.

#### **432. CALIPHS, RIGHTLY GUIDED**

**Who were the rightly guided Caliphs?**

The rightly guided Caliphs were:

- (1) Abu Bakr 632-634;
- (2) Umar 634—644;
- (3) Usman 644—656; and
- (4) Ali 656—661.

#### **433. CALISTHENICS**

**What is Calisthenics?**

It is the art or practice of taking exercises for health.

#### **434. CALLIPERS**

**What is Callipers?**

It is an instrument for measuring the outside diameter of wires or the inside diameter of pipes.

#### **435. CALORIE**

**What is a calorie and how is it expressed in food value?**

A calorie is a measure of heat. One calorie is equivalent to heat to make a kilogram of water one degree centigrade hotter.



The energy which drives the human body is also measured in calories. By the calorific value of food we refer to the amount of energy the food gives the person who eats it.

#### **436. CAMBODIA**

**Where is Cambodia?**

It is a country of South East Asia on the Bay of Siam. It has an area of 70,000 square miles and a population of 60 lakh. The capital is Pnom-penh. It became independent of France in 1954. Prince Sihanouk is the Head of the State.

#### **437. CAMEROUN**

**Where is Cameroun?**

It is a country in Africa. It was originally a German colony. After the first world war it came under the English and the French. The French part became independent in 1960. Population is 50 lakh. Capital is Yaounde.

#### **438. CAMOUFLAGE**

**What is camouflage?**

It is a device for deceiving or misleading.

#### **439. CAMPHOR**

**Where does the camphor tree grow?**

It grows in China and Japan.

#### **440. CANADA**

**What is the literal meaning of the word 'Canada'?**

It is a Red Indian word meaning a village.

#### **441. CANAL**

**What is a canal?**

It is an artificial water way.

#### **442. CANAL, OLDEST**

**Which is the oldest surviving canal in the world?**

It is the Grand Canal of China built between Hangchow and Tientsin by Kublai Khan in 1280.



#### **443. CANAL SYSTEM, LONGEST**

**Which is the longest canal system in the world?**

It is the Volga-Baltic canal system 1850 miles long.

#### **444. CANARY ISLANDS**

**Where are the Canary Islands?**

These are the Spanish islands in the Atlantic Ocean opposite Morocco. The islands are known for the canary bird.

#### **445. CANBERA**

**Where is Canberra.**

It is the capital of Australia.

#### **446. CANTILEVER**

**In engineering what is cantilever?**

It is a beam or a girder which projects from some structure but is not supported at the other end.

#### **447. CANYON**

**What is a canyon?**

It is a deep gorge or ravine. The largest canyon in the world is Grand Canyon on the Colorado river. It is 217 miles long and 15 miles wide.

#### **448. CAPE**

**What is a cape?**

It is a prominent headland or promontory projecting into the sea.

#### **449. CAPILLARY**

**In the human body what is the capillary?**

It is the smallest blood vessel connecting an artery and a vein.

#### **450. CAPITAL**

**In economics what is capital?**

It is wealth used for the production of further wealth.



#### **451. CAPITALISM**

**What is capitalism?**

It is an economic system under which all power is concentrated with the class who own capital.

#### **452. CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**

**What is capital punishment?**

It is the infliction of death as a punishment for crime.

#### **453. CAPRICE**

**What is caprice?**

It is sudden change of mind without apparent reason and indicative of certain wilfulness.

#### **454. CAR MANUFACTURING CONCERN, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest car manufacturing concern in the world?**

It is the General Motors Corporation, Detroit, USA whose annual sales exceed 3000 crore dollars.

#### **455. CARBON DIOXIDE**

**What is the proportion of carbon dioxide in the air and what would be the effect if carbon dioxide were to vanish?**

The proportion of carbon dioxide in the air is .03 percent. If carbon dioxide were to vanish the temperature would fall and the earth would become very cold.

#### **456. CARBON PAPER**

**What is carbon paper?**

It is a coated tissue paper which reproduces on paper underneath a copy of anything impressed on it.

#### **457. CARBURETOR**

**In a motor car what is a carburetor?**

It is that part where petrol is turned into vapour.



#### **458. CARDINAL POINTS**

**What are the Cardinal Points?**

These are the four points of the compass—North, South, East and West.

#### **459. CARDIOGRAPH**

**What is Cardiograph?**

It is an instrument for recording the character and movements of the heart.

#### **460. CARDINAL VIRTUES**

**What are the seven cardinal virtues?**

These are: justice; prudence; temperance; fortitude; faith; hope; and charity.

#### **461. CARLYLE, THOMAS**

**Who was Thomas Carlyle?**

Thomas Carlyle (1795—1881) was an English historian and essayist. His works include 'French Revolution'; 'Sartor Restarus' and 'Heroes and Hero Worship'.

#### **462. CARRION**

**In Biology what is carrion?**

It is the flesh of dead animals.

#### **463. CARTE BLANCHE**

**What is carte blanche?**

It is permission to do as one wishes.

#### **464. CARTHAGE**

**Where are the ruins of the ancient city of Carthage?**

These are to be found in modern Tunisia in Africa.



#### **465. CARTOPHILY**

**What is cartophily?**

It is the hobby of collecting cigarette cards.

#### **466. CASABLANCA POWERS**

**What are the Casablanca powers?**

These are Algeria; Ghana; Guinea; Mali; Morocco and U.A.R.

#### **467. CASE HISTORY**

**What is case history?**

It is a record of an individual's experiences, illnesses, education, environment, treatment and generally all facts relevant to the particular problems involved in a medical or clinical case.

#### **468. CASPIAN SEA**

**What is conspicuous about the Caspian Sea?**

It is the largest lake in the world. Its area is 164,000 square miles. Its water level is 92 feet below the mean sea level.

#### **469. CASTING**

**In metallurgy what is casting?**

It is the process of giving metal a particular shape. It is cast by pouring molten metal into a mould of the required shape.

#### **470. CASTING VOTE**

**What is casting vote?**

It is the vote cast by the Chairman of a meeting in the case of a tie.

#### **471. CASTLE, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest inhabited castle in the world?**

It is the Windsor Castle, UK 1890 ft by 540 ft.



#### **472. CASUS BELLI**

**What is casus belli?**

It is an act committed by one country against another justifying war.

#### **473. CATABOLISM**

**What is catabolism?**

It is the process of the breaking of substances into simpler parts.

#### **474. CATACOMBS**

**What are catacombs?**

These are subterranean galleries excavated for use as burial places.

#### **475. CATALEPSY**

**What is catalepsy?**

It is a mental disorder characterised by loss of will power.

#### **476. CATALYST**

**What is a catalyst?**

It is an activating agent which brings about changes but is itself not changed in the process.

#### **477. CATARACT**

**What is a cataract?**

It is a giant water fall.

Some important cataracts are: Niagara Waterfall, North America; Victoria Falls, Africa; Rhine Falls at Schaffhausen; and Cascade of Gavarni in the Pyrenes.

#### **478. CATHAY**

**Which country was once called Cathay?**

China was once called Cathay.



#### **479. CATHEDRAL, LARGEST**

**Which is the world's largest cathedral?**

The Cathedral Church of the Episcopalian Diocese of New York with a floor area of 121,000 sq. ft is the largest cathedral in the world.

#### **480. CATS**

**Why cats can see better than human beings in the dark?**

In the dark the pupils of the eyes of the cat enlarge much more than the pupils of the human eye. The eyes of the cat can thus admit more light and see better.

#### **481. CATTLE**

**What is the total number of cattle in the world, and what are the figures for cattle in some major countries?**

The total population of cattle is 95 crore.

The countries with large cattle population are: India 17.5 crore; USA 10 crore; USSR 8 crore; Brazil 7.6 crore; China 4.4 crore; Pakistan 2.1 crore; France 2 crore.

#### **482. CATTLE FARM**

**Which is the world's largest cattle farm?**

The Alexandria Cattle Farm with 58000 cattle and extending over an area of 6500 square miles in Australia is the largest cattle farm in the world.

#### **483. CAUCASUS**

**What are the Caucasus?**

These are the mountain range between Europe and Asia stretching 1000 miles from the Black Sea to the Caspian Sea. The highest point is Mt. Elborz 18526 ft.

#### **484. CAUSE LIST**

**In a court what is the cause list?**

It is a list of cases to be tried in the order of entry.



#### **485. CAUSEWAY**

**What is causeway?**

It is a road or path raised above ground level across marshy or low lying land.

#### **486. CAUTION MONEY**

**What is caution money?**

It is money deposited by one party as surety for the fulfilment of an obligation.

#### **487. CAVE, DEEPEST**

**Which is the deepest cave in the world?**

It is the 'Gouffre de La Pierre St Martin' in the Pyrennes between France and Spain 4300 ft deep.

#### **488. CAVE, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest cave in the world?**

It is the 'Big Room' of the Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico. It is 4270 ft long; 656 ft wide; and 327 ft high.

#### **489. CAVE, LONGEST**

**Which is the longest cave in the world?**

The longest cave in the world is the Flint Ridge Cave Kentucky, USA, 73 miles long.

#### **490. CAVENDISH**

**Who was Henry Cavendish?**

Henry Cavendish (1731—1810) was a scientist. He discovered Hydrogen and established that water is a compound of Hydrogen and Oxygen.

#### **491. CELESTIAL GUIDANCE**

**In space what is celestial guidance?**

It is guiding a space vehicle by fixing celestial bodies as reference points in navigation.



#### **492. CEMENT**

**How is cement produced?**

Cement is produced by burning a mixture of clay and lime stone.

#### **493. CEMETRY, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest cemetery in the world?**

It is the cemetery at Leningrad with over 5,00,000 tombs.

#### **494. CENOTAPH**

**What is a cenotaph?**

It is an empty tomb used as a memorial to the dead.

#### **495. CENOZOIC ERA**

**In Geology what was the Cenozoic era?**

It was the period during which plants and mammals appeared on the earth. This period was from 75 million years ago to a million years ago.

#### **496. CENTENARIANS**

**What is the number of centenarians in the world, and which is the country with the largest number of centenarians?**

The number of centenarians i.e. persons exceeding 100 years of age is about 25000.

The Republic of Georgia in USSR has the largest number of centenarians. Here one percent of the population is aged over 100 years.

#### **497. CENTRAL BANKS**

**Name the Central Banks of some major countries in the world?**

The central banks in some of the countries are:

- (1) U.K.—Bank of England;
- (2) France—Banque de France;
- (3) West Germany—Deutsche Bundesbank;
- (4) Italy—Banca d'Italia;
- (5) Norway—Norges Bank;



- (6) Sweden—Riksbank;
- (7) USA—Federal Reserve Bank;
- (8) USSR—State Banks;
- (9) China—People's Bank;
- (10) Japan—Nippon Ginko;
- (11) Pakistan—State Bank.

#### 498. CENTRAL HEATING

**What is central heating?**

It is a method of heating a building from one central furnace.

#### 499. CHAIN REACTION

**What is chain reaction?**

It is a process in which one nuclear transformation sets up conditions which permit the same nuclear transformation to take place in another atom.

#### 500. CHALK

**What exactly is chalk?**

Chalks were originally one celled animals. When these animals which lived in the ocean died their shells sank to the floor of the ocean. In the course of ages this became a thick layer and came to be known as chalk.

#### 501. CHANCE

**What is chance?**

It is an occurrence which is unpredictable,

#### 502. CHARACTER

**What is character?**

It is the integration of habits, sentiments and ideals which renders an individual's actions relatively stable and predictable.

#### 503. CHARACTER—DEFINITION

**According to biology how is character defined?**

It is any feature of an organism in respect of which it can be compared with other organisms.



#### **504. CHARLES' LAW OF GASES**

**What is Charles' law of gases?**

The law is that at a given pressure the volume occupied by a gas is directly proportional to the absolute temperature.

#### **505. CHASSIS**

**In a motor vehicle what are chassis?**

These are the frame and engine of a motor vehicle without the body.

#### **506. CHATTEL**

**What is chattel?**

It is tangible personal property.

#### **507. CHAUVINISM**

**What is Chauvinism, and what is the origin of the term?**

It stands for blind and pugnacious patriotism of exaggerated kind. It is named after Nicholas Chauvin, a French soldier who was madly devoted to Napoleon and his cause.

#### **508. CHEKA**

**In Russia what was the Cheka?**

It was the secret police established in 1917 to guard against counter revolutionary activity. It was an abbreviation for "Extraordinary Commission for the Combat of Counter revolution, sabotage and breach of duty by officials".

#### **509. CHEMICAL CHANGE**

**According to Chemistry what is a chemical change?**

It is a process in which substances are transformed from one form to another.

#### **510. CHEMICAL EQUATION**

**What is a Chemical Equation?**

It is a statement of a chemical change expressed in the form of chemical symbols.



## **511. CHEMISTRY**

**What is Chemistry and what are its main branches?**

Chemistry is the science of the elements and their compounds.  
The main branches are:

- (1) Organic Chemistry which deals with the chemistry of the compounds of carbon;
- (2) Inorganic Chemistry which deals with the chemistry of elements other than carbon;
- (3) Physical Chemistry which is concerned with the study of chemical reactions and the laws of Chemistry.

## **512. CHEMOTHERAPY**

**What is Chemotherapy?**

It is the science of treating disease chemically with drugs and antibiotics.

## **513. CHEMURGY**

**What is Chemurgy?**

It is the application of Chemistry to agriculture.

## **514. CHENGHIZ KHAN**

**Who was Chenghiz Khan?**

Chenghiz Khan (1162—1227) was a Mongol emperor and great conqueror. He conquered greater parts of Iran, and Iraq.

## **515. CHEQUE**

**What is a Cheque?**

It is an order addressed to a banker requesting him to pay the specified amount.

## **516. CHIMNEY**

**Which is the world's tallest chimney?**

The world's tallest chimney is the International Nickel Company's chimney at Copper Cliff, Ontario, Canada, 1251 ft high.



### **517. CHINA, LARGEST CITIES**

**Which are the largest cities of China?**

These are Peking; Tientsin; Canton; Hankow; and Shanghai.

### **518. CHINAMAN**

**In Cricket what is a Chinaman?**

It is an off break ball bowled by a left handed bowler to a right handed batsman.

### **519. CHINA WALL**

**When was the China wall constructed and what are its dimensions?**

It was constructed in the third century BC to defend China against the warlike nomads of Mongolia. It is 20 ft wide and 40 ft. high. It extends about 1500 miles and has 50 towers.

### **520. CHLOROFORM**

**Why do we not feel pain when operated under the effect of chloroform?**

When chloroform is breathed its molecules pass into the blood as it circulates and are carried to the brain. The chloroform molecules prevent the brain from using up the Oxygen in the blood with the result that it suspends working. As such no pain is felt as the brain is not working.

### **521. CHLOROPHYLL**

**In plants what is Chlorophyll?**

It is a complex chemical substance that enables the plant to use the energy of sunlight for its own growth and development.

### **522. CHOU EN LAI**

**Who was Chou En Lai?**

Chou En Lai (1898—1976) was a great Chinese statesman. He was the Prime Minister of China from 1958 to 1976.

### **523. CHRIST, JESUS**

**Who was Jesus Christ?**

Jesus Christ (4 BC to 30 AD) was a prophet. He was the founder of Christianity.



## **524. CHRISTIAN SCIENCE**

**What is the Christian Science?**

It is a religious movement founded by Mary Baker Eddy which seeks to heal by spiritual means instead of medicine and surgery.

## **525. CHOROGRAPHY**

**What is Chorography?**

It is the art of making a map.

## **526. CHROMOSPHERE**

**What is Chromosphere?**

It is a thin atmosphere of gases surrounding the photosphere of the sun. It is visible only on the occasion of an eclipse.

## **527. CHRONOLOGY**

**What is Chronology?**

It is the science that deals with historical dates and arranges them in the order of time.

## **528. CHRONOSCOPE**

**What is a Chronoscope?**

It is an instrument for measuring very small intervals of time e.g.  $1/1000$  second.

## **529. CHURCH, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest church in the world?**

The Basilica of St. Peter in Vatican, Rome is the largest Church in the world. The Popes are crowned here. The construction of the Church took 100 years to complete.

## **529 (a) CHURCHILL, WINSTON**

**Who was Winston Churchill?**

Winston Churchill (1874—1965) was a British statesman, parliamentarian, and historian. He was the Prime Minister of U.K. during the war years 1940—45, and led his country to victory.



### **530. CINEMA HOUSES**

**Which is the country with the largest number of cinema houses?**

The country with the largest number of cinema houses is USSR where there are  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lakh cinema houses.

### **531. CINEMATOGRAPH**

**What is a cinematograph?**

It is an instrument which projects upon the screen a series of pictures in rapid succession.

### **532. CINNABAR**

**What is cinnabar?**

It is the ore from which mercury is obtained.

### **533. CIRCLE**

**What is the characteristic of a circle?**

It is a closed curve which is everywhere at a constant distance from its centre.

### **534. CIRCUIT**

**In electricity what is a circuit?**

It is the complete path of an electric current.

### **535. CIRCUMCISION**

**Who instituted the practice of circumcision for the first time?**

It was instituted by the Prophet Abraham.

### **536. CIRCUMLOCUTION**

**What is Circumlocution?**

It is an evasive and indirect way of saying a thing, using more words than necessary.

### **537. CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE**

**What is circumstantial evidence?**

Evidence is said to be circumstantial when a set of facts cumulatively point to a definite conclusion.



### **538. CIRCUS, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest circus in the world?**

It is the Circus Nevada, USA covering an area of 129,000 sq. ft.

### **539. CISELUNAR**

**What is cislunar?**

It is the space between the earth and the moon.

### **540. CITY FOGS**

**Why city fogs are thicker than country fogs?**

That is so because city air is full of dust and soot that mingle with tiny particles of water to form a thicker blanket.

### **541. CITY OF PLEASURE**

**Which city in France is called the 'city of pleasure'?**

The city called by this name is 'Nice'.

### **542. CITY OF SEVEN HILLS**

**In Europe which is the 'City of Seven Hills'?**

Rome in Italy is known as the 'City of the Seven Hills'.

### **543. CITY OF SUNSHINE**

**Which city in Africa is called 'the city of sunshine'?**

Cape Town in South Africa is called the 'city of sunshine'.

### **544. CIVIL LIST**

**In U. K. what is the civil list?**

It is the money voted annually by the Parliament for the Crown and the royal household.

### **545. CLAIRVOYANT**

**Who is a clairvoyant?**

A clairvoyant is a person who possesses the power to discern or detect objects not discernable to the usual senses, e.g. the objects



when we cannot see, hear, touch, taste or smell. Such persons have extra sensory perception and may be said to own a sixth sense.

#### **546. CLEOPATRA**

**Who was Cleopatra?**

Cleopatra (69-30 BC) was the Queen of Egypt. She was the most beautiful woman of the age. She was the mistress of Julius Caesar, and after him that of Antony.

#### **547. CLERK-MAXWELL**

**Who was James Clerk Maxwell?**

James Clerk Maxwell is regarded as the 'Father of the New Wave Theory'. He showed that electric phenomena display mathematical relations corresponding to the phenomena of light and held that light heat and electric waves are of much the same nature.

#### **548. CLIMATE**

**What is climate, and what are its various types?**

Climate is the weather in the context of a period of several years.

Some types of climate are:

- (1) Equatorial climate—heavy rains, hot and humid;
- (2) Monsoon climate—hot stormy summers, and cool dry winters;
- (3) Savanna climate—heavy rains in the summer and dry cold in the winter.
- (4) Mediterranean climate, summers warm and dry, winters mild with moderate rainfall;
- (5) Continental climate—hot summers and cold winters;
- (6) Maritime climate—climate moderated because of the sea.

#### **550. CLINIC**

**What is a clinic?**

It is a dispensary for medical treatment and advice.

#### **551. CLINICAL THERMOMETER**

**Why a clinical thermometer has a constriction near the bulb?**

That is to ensure that the mercury level having risen to a height inside the tube does not fall unless a jerk is given.



### **552. CLIVE, ROBERT**

**Who was the man who established the British empire, but cut his own throat?**

The man was Robert Clive. He committed suicide in 1774.

### **553. CLOCK, MASSIVE**

**Which is the most massive clock in the world?**

It is the Astronomical Clock in Beauvais Cathedral, France, 40 ft high, 20 ft. wide and 9 ft deep.

### **554. CLOSED ECONOMY**

**It is an economy with no imports or exports.**

### **555. CLOSET DRAMA**

**What is closet drama?**

It is a drama designed to be read and not to be acted.

### **556. CLOUD**

**What are clouds and how are they formed?**

The clouds are masses of minute water particles condensed by cooling air from water vapour which floats in the atmosphere. Clouds result from the fact that as moist air rises it expands and therefore cools owing to reduction of air pressure accompanying its ascent.

### **557. CLOUD BURST**

**What is a cloud burst?**

It is a sudden heavy downpour of rain.

### **558. CLOUDS, TYPES OF**

**What are the types of clouds?**

The main types of clouds are:

- (1) Cirrus clouds which consist of minute ice specks and occur at heights exceeding 30,000 ft;



- (2) Cumulus clouds which are fleecy clouds that occur at heights exceeding 20,000 ft;
- (3) Nimbus clouds which are dark clouds occurring at average height of 15,000 ft; and
- (4) Stratus clouds which are spread out like a sheet at lower level, and have little rain.

### **559. CLOUDY NIGHTS**

**Why are cloudy nights warmer than clear ones?**

On a clear night the heat of the earth is radiated without any hindrance, and because of such radiation of heat there is a fall in temperature. On a cloudy night the clouds retard the process of the radiation of heat. As less heat is radiated on a cloudy night, such night is comparatively warmer than a clear night.

### **560. COAL-AGE**

**How old is the coal that we use?**

The coal that we use may be one crore to 10 crore years old.

### **561. COAL-LEADING PRODUCERS**

**Which countries are the leading producers of coal?**

USA produces 22% of total coal in the world; USSR 21%, UK 8%; West Germany 7%; and the rest 42%

### **562. COAL, OCCURRENCE**

**How does coal occur in nature?**

It occurs as a bedded sedimentary rock normally in roughly horizontal beds called seams, together with sand stones, fire clays, and beds of iron stone.

### **563. COBALT**

**Which countries are the main producers of cobalt in the world?**

The main producers are Congo and Zambia in Africa.

### **564. COCK AND BULL STORY**

**What is a cock and bull story?**

It is an imaginary story which cannot be believed.



## **565. COCKCROFT**

**Who was John Cockcroft?**

John Cockcroft (1897—1967) was an English nuclear physicist. He split the nucleus of the atom for the first time in 1932. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1951.

## **565. (a) COCKPIT**

**In an aeroplane what is the cockpit?**

It is the place where the pilot sits.

## **566. CODE**

**In law, what is a code?**

It is a system of laws properly consolidated.

## **567. COFFEE**

**Where does coffee grow?**

It grows in West Indies, Brazil, Central America, and India.

## **568. COFFEE, NAME**

**Why is coffee so called?**

It is so called because it was originally grown in Caffa in Ethiopia.

## **569. COGNITION**

**What is cognition?**

It is a general term covering all the various modes of knowledge—perceiving, remembering, imagining, conceiving, judging, and reasoning.

## **570. COIN, DERIVATION**

**What is the derivation of the term 'coin'?**

It is derived from the Latin word 'Cuneus' meaning wedge. That was because the dies that made coins looked like wedges.



### **571. COKE**

**What is coke?**

It is the solid residue remaining when coal is carbonised and nearly all the volatile constituents have been driven off.

### **572. COLDEST INHABITED PLACE**

**Which is the coldest inhabited place in the world?**

It is the Siberian village of Oymyakon where the temperature of  $-96^{\circ}\text{F}$  was recorded in 1964.

### **573. COLD WAR**

**What is cold war?**

It is a state of tension between two countries without actually resorting to arms.

### **574. COLERIDGE**

**Who was Samuel Taylor Coleridge?**

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772—1834) was an English poet. His best known poems are 'Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner', and 'Kubla Khan'.

### **575. COLLECTIVE SECURITY**

**What is the principle of collective security?**

The principle is that the aggression of any one nation is to be met by the resistance of all.

### **576. COLOGY**

**What is Cology?**

It is the science of the eggs of birds.

### **577. COLUMBIA**

**Which country in the world is named after Columbus?**

Columbia in South America is named after Columbus.



## **578. COLUMBUS**

**Who was Cristopher Columbus?**

Cristopher Columbus (1446—1506) was an Italian navigator. He discovered America.

## **579. COLUMN**

**In architecture what is a column?**

It is an upright solid body serving as a support or decoration to a building.

## **580. COMA**

**What is the state of coma in the case of a suffering person?**

It is a state of complete unconsciousness.

## **581. COMBUSTION**

**In Chemistry what is combustion?**

Combustion is any chemical action in which heat and light are produced.

## **582. COMMON MARKET**

**What is common market?**

It is a trading area with no internal tariffs.

## **583. COMMON SENSE**

**How is common sense defined?**

According to Oxford Dictionary, 'common sense' is good sound practical sense, combined tact and readiness in dealing with the ordinary affairs of life.

## **584. COMMUNISM**

**What is Communism?**

It is the economic system in which property is vested in the community.

## **585. COMMUNIST GOVERNMENTS**

**What part of the human race is under the control of the communist governments?**

One third of the human race is under the control of the Communist governments.



## **586. COMMUTATIVE LAW**

**In arithmetic what is the commutative law?**

The law is that the results of addition or multiplication are not affected by the order of the terms.

## **587. COMMUTATOR**

**In Electricity what is the Commutator?**

It is the instrument that changes alternating current to direct current.

## **588. COMPANY OLDEST**

**Which is the oldest Company in the world?**

The Faversham Oyster Fishery Company London established in 1189 AD is the oldest company in the world.

## **589. COMPOST**

**What is compost?**

It is vegetable matter caused to decay by bacterial action.

## **590. COMPREHENSION**

**What is Comprehension?**

It is an intelligent grasp of the meaning of a situation or an action.

## **591. COMPULSION NEUROSIS**

**What is Compulsion Neurosis?**

It is a form of disorder of the mind in which the sufferer feels that he must do certain things, e.g. strike persons, and suffers when he does not do that.

## **592. CONAN DOYLE**

**Who was Sir Arthur Conan Doyle?**

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1869—1930) was an English novelist. His well known work is 'Adventures of Sherlock Holmes.'



### **593. CONCHOLOGY**

**What is Conchology?**

It is the study of shells.

### **594. CONCRETE**

**How is concrete made?**

It is made by mixing cement, sand and gravel with water and allowing the mixture to harden.

### **595. CONCUSSION**

**What is Concussion?**

It is the loss of consciousness caused by a blow on the head.

### **596. CONDENSATION**

**What is condensation, and how is the process carried in nature?**

Condensation is the process in which a gas or vapour turns into liquid or solid form. This happens when it is cooled or compressed. In nature we have condensation in the form of rain, snow, hail, and dew.

### **597. CONDIMONIUM**

**What is Condimonium?**

It is a system whereunder a territory is governed jointly by two or more countries e.g. Sudan was at one time governed by Great Britain and Egypt.

### **598. CONDUCT**

**What is conduct?**

It is the level of behaviour determined by foresight.

### **599. CONDUIT**

**What is a conduit?**

It is a channel or a pipe for a fluid or gas.



## **600. CONFISCATION**

**In law, what is confiscation?**

It is the appropriation of private property to public use without the payment of compensation.

## **601. CONFUSION**

**What is confusion?**

It is a disordered mental condition involving a clouding of consciousness, lack of orientation, and tendency to hallucination.

## **602. CONIFERS**

**What are conifers?**

These are trees which bear their seeds in cones. They are generally ever green.

## **603. CONJUNCTIONS**

**What are conjunctions?**

These are words which connect or join.

## **604. CONJUNCTIONS, WORDS**

**Name the words which are conjunctions?**

Some of these are: and, but, also, moreover, either, and neither.

## **605. CONNOTATION**

**In logic what is connotation?**

It refers to properties of a thing.

## **606. CONSCIENCE**

**What is conscience?**

It is a person's system of accepted moral and ethical principles.

## **607. CONSCRIPTION**

**What is Conscription?**

It is compulsory enlistment of able bodied men in military service.



## **608. CONSERVATION OF MATTER, LAW**

**What is the law of the conservation of matter?..**

The law is that as a result of a chemical change the sum total of matter remains the same.

## **609. CONSTANTINE**

**Who was Constantine?**

Constantine I (274—337 AD) was a Byzantine emperor. He was the first Byzantine emperor to become a Christian.

## **610. CONSTELLATION**

**What is a constellation?**

It is a group of stars in particular regions of the universe.

## **611. CONSTITUTION**

**What is Constitution?**

It is the fundamental organic law of a country.

## **612. CONSUMPTION**

**In economics what is consumption?**

It is the use of goods and services for the satisfaction of wants. According to Keynes, consumption is the sole end and object of all economic activity.

## **613. CONTINENT**

**What is a continent, and which are the continents of the world?**

A continent is a large unbroken mass of land on the surface of the earth. The continents are: Asia; Africa; Europe; North America; South America; Australia and Antarctica.

## **614. CONTINENTAL SHELF**

**What is continental shelf?**

Continental shelf is the part of the sea floor adjoining a land mass over which the depth of water does not exceed 600 ft. The



continental shelves are regarded as submerged parts of the adjoining continents.

### **615. CONTINENTS, AREAS**

**What are the areas of the various continents?**

These figures are:

- (1) Asia 17,461,583 square miles;
- (2) Africa 11,696,752 sq. miles;
- (3) Europe 3,525,755 sq. miles;
- (4) Antarctica 5,100,000 sq. miles;
- (5) Oceania (Australia and Newzealand) 3,303,002 sq. miles;
- (6) North America 9,157,026 sq. miles;
- (7) South America 6,868,098 sq. miles.

### **616. CONTOUR**

**What are Contours?**

These are lines drawn through places of equal heights above the sea level.

### **617. CONTOUR PLANTING**

**What is contour planting?**

It is the planting of crops on slopes and hill sides. This prevents erosion by run off rain water and help absorb rain water.

### **618. CONTRACT**

**What is a contract? ...**

It is an agreement either oral or in writing whereby one party undertakes to do something for the other party to the contract.

### **619. CONVERSION HYSTERIA**

**What is conversion hysteria?**

It is a mental disorder which is converted to some disorder in the body.

### **620. CONVULSIONS**

**What are convulsions?**

These are violent stiffening and loosening of the muscles in unconsciousness e.g. as in epilepsy.



## 621. COOK

**Why does it take more time to cook meat at a hill station than in the plains?**

At a hill station the atmospheric pressure is decreased and as a result the boiling point is lowered. With the lowering of the boiling point the quantum of heat is lessened and as such more time is taken in cooking.

## 622. COOKING

**What is cooking?**

It is the art of preparing foods to make them tastier and easier to eat.

## 623. COOLING, LAW OF

**What is Newton's law of cooling?**

The law is that when a hot body is cooled in air the rate of cooling is proportional to the difference in temperature of the body and that of the surroundings.

## 624. COPENHAGEN

**Where is Copenhagen?**

It is the capital of Denmark. It is one of the most attractive cities of Europe.

## 625. COPERNICUS

**Who was Copernicus and what is his contribution to human knowledge?**

Copernicus (1473---1543) was a Polish astronomer. Before him it was the belief that the earth was the centre of the universe, and that the sun and other heavenly bodies revolved round it. Copernicus was the first to show that the earth revolved round the sun.

## 626. COPPER, LEADING PRODUCERS

**Which countries are the leading producers of copper?**

These are: USA which produce 17% of the world supply; USSR 16%; Chile 13%; Zambia 13% rest 41%.



### **627. COPPER MINE, LARGEST**

**Which is the world's largest copper mine?**

It is the mine at El-Teniente Chile with an annual output of 1 crore tons of ore.

### **628. COPPER, NAME**

**What is the origin of the name of copper?**

Copper is so called because it was first obtained from the island of Cyprus.

### **629. COPTS**

**Who are the Copts?**

They are the descendants of ancient Egyptians who kept their Christian religion even after the coming of Islam.

### **630. COPYRIGHT**

**What is copyright?**

It is the sole right to reproduce a writing.

### **631. CORAL**

**What is coral?**

It is a rock-like formation formed from the chalky skeletons of tiny animals in the sea.

### **632. CORK**

**Which country is the largest producer of cork?**

Portugal is the largest producer of cork.

### **633. CORONA**

**What is Corona?**

It is the rarefied outer atmosphere of the sun. It shows as a great halo millions of miles in extent.



#### 634. CORROSION

What is corrosion?

It is the process of the eating away of a metal by an acid.

#### 635. COSMETICS

What are cosmetics?

These are substances used to improve the appearance.

#### 636. COSMIC FUR

What is the cosmic fur of the earth?

The atmosphere is the cosmic fur of the earth.

#### 637. COSMIC RADIATION

What is cosmic radiation?

It is radiation which enters the earth's atmosphere from outer space.

#### 638. COSMIC RAYS

What are cosmic rays?

These are fast moving particles entering the upper atmosphere from interplanetary space. Most of them come from far beyond the solar system and their origin is unknown.

#### 639. COSMOLOGY

What is Cosmology?

It is the science which studies the universe, its origin, nature, size, and evolution.

#### 640. COSMOVISION

What is cosmovision?

It is a telecast from space.

#### 641. COST

In economics what is cost?

It is the amount of expenditure incurred in obtaining the services of a factor of production.



#### **642. COTTON**

**Which countries are the main producers of cotton?**

These are: USSR 20%; USA 16%; China 15% ; India 11%; Pakistan 5%; rest 33%.

#### **643. COTTON GINNING**

**What is cotton ginning?**

It is the process of the stripping up of the fibres from the cotton seed.

#### **644. COUGH**

**How is cough caused?**

It is caused by the irritation of the larynx by particles of foreign substances.

#### **645. CLOUMB'S LAW**

**In electricity, what is Coulomb's law?**

The law is that the force between two charges is proportional directly to the product of the magnitudes of their charges and inversely to the square of the distance between them.

#### **646. COUNCIL FOR MUTUAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE (COMECON)**

**What is the Council for Mutual Common Assistance?**

It is an organisation of the communist countries set up in 1949 for the rendering of economic assistance to East European countries ravaged in the second world war. It was the communist counterpart of Marshal Plan.

#### **647. COUNTRY, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest country in the world in the matter of area?**

USSR is the largest country comprising 15 republics covering an area of 8,649,550 sq. miles, 15 percent of the world's total area with a length of 5580 miles east to west and a width of 2790 miles north to south.



#### **648. COUNTRY, MOST POPULATED**

**Which is the most populated country in the world?**

China is the most populated country in the world with a population of 70 crore.

#### **649. COUNTRIES, TWELVE LARGEST**

**Which are the twelve largest countries of the world in the matter of area and population?**

In the matter of area the 12 largest countries are: USSR; Canada; USA; China; Brazil; Australia; India; Argentina; Sudan; Algeria; Congo and Saudi Arabia.

In the matter of population the countries are China; India; USSR; USA ; Indonesia; Japan ; Brazil; Bangla Desh; Pakistan; West Germany; Nigeria; and UK.

#### **650. COUNTRIES, COMMUNIST**

**Which are the communist countries in the world?**

These are: Albania; Bulgaria; Cuba; Czechoslovakia; East Germany; Hungary; Mongolia; North Korea; North Vietnam; China; Poland; Rumania; USSR; and Yugoslavia.

#### **651. COUP D' ETAT**

**What is coup d'etat, and how does it differ from a revolution?**

It is a sudden change of government by force brought about by those who already hold some governmental or military power. It differs from a revolution in the fact that it is effected from above, while a revolution involves the participation of the masses.

#### **652. CRANES**

**What are cranes?**

These are machines which lift heavy loads or transfer materials from one part of the site to another.

#### **653. CRATER, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest crater in the world?**

It is Mt. Asu, Kyushu, Japan 71 miles in circumference.



#### 654. CREAM

Why is cream formed on milk when heated?

Milk contains fat, and when heated this fat is separated and being lighter than milk rises to the top as cream, and floats on the milk in the same way as oil floats on water.

#### 655. CREATIVE EVOLUTION

What is the concept of creative evolution?

The concept is that evolution like the work of an artist is creative and therefore unpredictable.

#### 656. CREATIVITY

What is creativity?

It is the ability to bring into existence new ideas, concepts or devices.

#### 657. CREDENTIALS

In the case of an ambassador what are the credentials?

It is the authority letter of a Government given to an ambassador which he presents before the Head of the State to which he is accredited.

#### 658. CREED

What is creed?

It is the concise expression of religious faith.

#### 659. CRESCOGRAPH

What is Crescograph?

It is the instrument for measuring the growth of plants.

#### 660. CRICKET

In Cricket what is the number of players, and what are the dimensions for the ground, bat, ball, and stumps?

The number of players is 11 on each side.



The ground is oval shaped. Distance between the wickets is to be 22 yards. The bat is to be 38 inches long and  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide. The ball is to be  $8-13\frac{1}{16}$  inches in circumference and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  oz in weight. The bowling crease is to be 8 ft 8 inches in length. The stumps are to be 27 inches out of the ground.

### **661. CRIMINOLOGY**

**What is criminology?**

It is the scientific study of crime.

### **662. CRISIS**

**What is crisis?**

It is a definite turning point in the course of an event.

### **663. CROP ROTATION**

**In agriculture what is crop rotation?**

It is a method of farming in which different crops are planted in the same soil in succeeding season to enrich the soil.

### **664. CROSS WIND**

**What is cross wind?**

It is wind blowing at right angle to the course of a moving object or person.

### **665. CRUSADES**

**What were the crusades; what was their number?**

The crusades were military expeditions undertaken by the Christian powers against the Muslims in the Middle East. There were nine crusades, their dates being: 1095–1099; 1147–49; 1189–92; 1202–04; 1217–21; 1228–29; 1248–54; 1270; and 1271–72.

### **666. CRYOGENICS**

**What is Cryogenics?**

It is the study of the behaviour of metals at extremely low temperatures.



**667. CUCKOO**

**Where does the cuckoo lay its eggs?**

It lays its eggs in the nests of other birds.

**668. CUL DE SAC**

**What is cul-de-sac?**

It is a blind alley.

**669. CULTURE**

**What is culture?**

It is the way of life of a people.

**670. CUPOLA**

**What is a cupola?**

It is a ceiling or a roof of a rounded form.

**671. CURIE, MARIE**

**Who was Marie Curie?**

Marie Curie (1868—1932) was a French scientist. She discovered radium and was awarded the Nobel prize.

**672. CURIOSITY**

**What is curiosity?**

It is a tendency to be attracted by the novel and the strange with a view to seeking knowledge.

**673. CURRENT**

**In electricity what is a current?**

It is a flow of electricity through a conductor.

**674. CYCLING**

**What is the record of fastest speed in cycling?**

In 1962 J. Meiffret of France established a record of 127.24 miles an hour.



### **675. CYCLOTRON**

**What is Cyclotron?**

It is a machine for smashing the atoms.

### **676. CYRUS**

**Who was Cyrus the Great?**

He founded the Persian empire in the 6th century BC and became the master of an empire extending from the Mediterranean to India.

### **677. CYTOLOGY**

**What is Cytology?**

It is the science that studies the lowest physiological unit, the cell.

## **D**

### **678. DALAI LAMA**

**Who is Dalai Lama?**

He is the head of the Buddhist monks in Tibet.

### **679. DALTON**

**Who was John Dalton?**

John Dalton (1766—1844) was a scientist. He propounded the Atomic theory.

### **680. DALTON'S LAW OF PARTIAL PRESSURE**

**What is Dalton's law of partial pressure?**

The law is that the total pressure exerted by a gaseous mixture is the sum of the pressure which the gases would exert individually if each one of them alone occupied the whole volume provided they lack chemical affinity for each other.

### **681. DAM**

**What is a dam, and which are the largest, highest and longest dams in the world?**

A dam is a large structure across a river impounding water.

The largest dam is the Port Peck dam across the Missouri river with a capacity of 2 crore acre ft, length 21026 ft and height 252 ft.



The highest dam in the world is the Grand Dixence dam in Switzerland 932 ft high.

The longest dam is the dam across the river Mahanadi at Hirakund (India) 35,500 ft long.

#### **682. DANTE**

**Who was Alighiere Dante?**

Alighieri Dante (1265—1321) was the greatest Italian poet. His most famous work is 'Divine Comedy'.

#### **683. DANUBE**

**Through which countries of Europe does the river Danube flow?**

It flows through Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Rumania, and Bulgaria.

#### **684. DANUBE COMMISSION**

**What is the Danube Commission?**

It is a commission consisting of the representatives of Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, USSR, and Yugoslavia. It regulates the navigation of the Danube. The headquarters of the Commission are at Budapest.

#### **685. DARK HORSE**

**In politics who is a dark horse?**

He is a comparatively unknown person brought forward as a compromise candidate for an office.

#### **686. DAR-US-SALAM**

**Of which country is Dar-us-Salam the capital?**

It is the capital of Tanzania in Africa.

#### **687. DARWIN**

**Who was Charles Robert Darwin?**

Charles Robert Darwin (1809—1882) was a famous scientist. He propounded the theory of evolution. His famous book is "Origin of Species".



## **688. DATA**

**What is data?**

It is a group of known, given or ascertained facts from which a conclusion is drawn or on which a discussion is based.

## **689. DATA PROCESSING**

**What is data processing?**

It is performing calculations on data according to a pre-determined process by means of a computer.

## **690. DATA REDUCTION**

**What is data reduction?**

It is changing a raw mass of information into orderly predetermined and simplified form.

## **691. D.D.T.**

**What does D.D.T. stand for, and what are its uses?**

It stands for Dichloro Diphenyl Trichloroethane. It is used either as a powder which can be dusted into clothes or over crops or in a liquid form so that it can be sprayed. It has been particularly successful in killing the mosquitoes that carry malaria and in helping farmers in freeing crops from destructive pests.

## **692. DEAD HORSE**

**In economics what is a dead horse?**

It is a work which has been paid for but has yet to be completed.

## **693. DEAD SEA**

**Where is the Dead Sea?**

It is an inland sea on the border of Jordan and Israel. It is 1292 ft below sea level and is the lowest elevation on the earth. It has very high salt content 24% and no life survives therein, hence the name Dead Sea.

## **694. DEAD SEA-SALINITY**

**What is the salinity in the case of Dead Sea?**

Normal ocean water contains 6% salt. In the case of Dead Sea the salinity is 25%.



### **695. DEBACLE**

**What is debacle?**

It is a sudden collapse or a downfall.

### **696. DEBENTURES**

**What are debentures?**

These are long term fixed interest loans.

### **697. DECIDUOUS TREES**

**What are deciduous trees?**

These are trees which shed their leaves during the autumn.

### **698. DECOMPOSITION**

**In Chemistry what is decomposition?**

It is breaking down of a complex chemical substance into simpler elements.

### **699. DECORUM**

**What is decorum?**

It is conformity to social standards of behaviour.

### **700. DEDUCTION**

**In Philosophy what is deduction?**

In the course of experience we acquire knowledge and form opinion and judgment about various things. In the course of further experience we apply that knowledge to other situations and this process is deduction.

### **701. DE FACTO**

**What is de facto?**

It is something actual, based on fact.

### **702. DEFICIT**

**What is deficit?**

It is an excess of liabilities over assets.



### **703. DEFICIT FINANCING**

**In public finance what is deficit financing?**

It is the process of incurring large scale expenditure out of borrowed funds. By deficit financing debt is increased, money falls in value, and there is increase in prices.

### **704. DEFILE**

**What is a defile?**

It is a passage made by a stream through rocks.

### **705. DEFINITE PROPORTIONS, LAW OF**

**In Chemistry what is the law of definite proportions?**

The law is that a given compound always contains the same elements combined in the same proportions by weight.

### **706. DEFOE, DANIEL**

**Who was Daniel Defoe?**

Daniel Defoe (1661—1731) was an English journalist and novelist. His most famous book is 'Robinson Crusoe'.

### **707. DEHYDRATION**

**What is dehydration?**

It is the process of drying the food to preserve it.

### **708. DELIQUESCENCE**

**What is deliquescence?**

It is the process when certain solids on exposure to air become liquid e.g. calcium chloride.

### **709. DE JURE**

**What is de jure?**

It is a Latin term meaning 'by right'.



## **710. DELIRIUM**

**What is delirium?**

It is a condition of clouding consciousness accompanied by illusions, hallucinations and incoherent trains of thought with restlessness and usually high fever.

## **711. DELTA, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest delta in the world?**

It is the delta of the Ganges and the Brahmaputra in Bangla Desh.

## **712. DELUSION**

**What is delusion, and what are the main types thereof?**

It is a strong belief opposed to reality and maintained in spite of logical persuasion and evidence to the contrary.

The main types are.

- (1) delusion of grandeur, belief that one is exalted;
- (2) delusion of persecution, belief that one is being plotted against;
- (3) delusion of reference, belief that chance happenings concern one's self.

## **713. DEMAND DEPOSIT**

**In a bank what is a demand deposit?**

It is a deposit which can be withdrawn on demand.

## **714. DEMOCRACY**

**What is democracy?**

It is government of the people, by the people, and for the people, a system in which the supreme sovereign power vests in the people.

## **715. DEMOGOGY**

**What is demogogy?**

It is appealing to the emotions and prejudices of the masses usually by means of lies and half truths.



## **716. DEMOGRAPHY**

**What is demography?**

It is the science of population.

## **717. DEMOSTHENESE**

**Who was Demosthenese?**

In ancient Greece he was the greatest orator during the 4th century BC.

## **718. DENIZEN**

**Who is a denizen?**

He is a naturalised citizen.

## **719. DENMARK**

**On what does the prosperity of Denmark depend?**

It depends on cows, pigs, and chickens

## **720. DENOTATION**

**In logic what is denotation?**

It is all that is included in a term.

## **721. DEPOSITION**

**In law, what is deposition?**

It is evidence given on oath.

## **722. DEPRECIATION**

**What is depreciation?**

It is a diminution in the original value of an asset due to use or other factors.

## **723. DEPRESSION**

**What is depression?**

It is an emotional attitude involving a feeling of inadequacy



and hopelessness accompanied by a general lowering of psycho-physical activity.

#### **724. DERBY**

**What is Derby?**

It is a horse racing event held annually at Epsom Downs 15 miles from London.

#### **725. DERELICT**

**What is derelict property?**

It is property abandoned by the owner in a manner which indicates that he disclaims all right to it.

#### **726. DESCARTES**

**Who was Rene Descartes?**

Rene Descartes (1596—1650) was a French mathematician and philosopher. He is known as the father of the scientific method, and as the originator of analytic geometry and as progenitor of physiological psychology.

#### **727. DESERTS**

**Which are the main deserts on the earth?**

These are: the great Sahara of North Africa; the Arabian Desert; Kalhari desert South Africa; Death alley USA; Mogave desert, America; and the Atcama desert, South America.

#### **728. DESERT FOX**

**In the second world war a General was nicknamed as 'Desert Fox'. Who was he?**

He was Rommel the Commander of the German forces in Africa.

#### **729. DESERT LARGEST**

**Which is the largest desert in area.**

It is the great Sahara of North Africa 32 lakh square miles in area.



### **730. DESPAIR**

**What is despair?**

It is an unpleasant motional state associated with the abandoning of hope of a successful issue of one's efforts to attain an end or satisfy a desire.

### **731. DESSICATION**

**What is dessication?**

It is the process of drying substances by heat of chemical methods.

### **732. DETENTE**

**What is detente?**

It is the cessation of hostilities between two countries.

### **733. DETERMINISM**

**What is the doctrine of determinism?**

It is the doctrine that man is largely conditioned by his environment which therefore determines his pattern of life.

### **734. DEVALUATION**

**What is devaluation?**

It is the reduction of the legal value of a currency.

### **735. DEW**

**What is dew due to?**

Dew is the result of condensation on the earth. At night the earth sometimes becomes colder than the air and when the water vapour in the air touches leaves and other objects on the earth's cold surface in the early hours of the morning it forms dew.

### **736. DIAGNOSIS**

**What is diagnosis?**

It is the determination of the nature of a disorder or disease.



### **737. DIALECTIC METHOD**

**In education what is the dialectic method?**

It is the method in which teaching is imparted through questions and answers.

### **738. DIAMAGNETICS**

**What are diamagnetics?**

These are substances which are repelled by magnets. These include bismuth, phosphorus, antimony, zinc, lead and tin.

### **739. DIAMONDS**

**Where are diamonds mined?**

These are mined in South Africa, South West Africa; Botswana; Zaire; Angola; Tanzania; Ghana; Sierra Leone; Russia; Brazil; Venezuela; Guyana; Indonesia and India.

### **740. DIAMOND CUTTING CENTRES**

**Which are the main diamond cutting centres in the world?**

These are Antwerp; New York; Tel Aviv; Bombay; London; and Amsterdam.

### **741. DIAPHRAGM**

**In physiology what is a diaphragm?**

It is a thin membrane that separates the chest activity from the abdomen.

### **742. DICKENS, CHARLES**

**Who was Charles Dickens?**

Charles Dickens (1812—1870) was an English novelist. His famous novels include 'David Copperfield', 'Pickwick Papers'; 'A Tale of Two Cities'; and 'Oliver Twist'.

### **743. DICTAPHONE**

**What is a dictaphone?**

It is a machine which records what is spoken and reproduces it in type.



#### **744. DICTIONARY, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest dictionary?**

It is the Oxford English Dictionary in 12 volumes containing 414,825 words.

#### **745. DIESEL ENGINE**

**What is a diesel engine and why is it so named?**

It is an internal combustion engine with high compression in which fuel oil is ignited directly, producing combustion that drives the piston. It is named after the German inventor Rudolf Diesel (1858—1913).

#### **746. DIET-MINERALS**

**Thirteen minerals are indispensable for a good diet. Which are these minerals?**

These minerals are: Sodium; Potassium; Calcium; Magnesium; Chlorine; Iodine; Phosphorus; Sulphur; Iron; Copper; Zinc; Manganese and Cobalt.

#### **747. DIFFUSION**

**What is diffusion?**

It is the process of mixing which occurs when two liquids or gases come in contact.

#### **748. DIGESTION**

**In Physiology what is digestion?**

It is the process of changing food so that it can be used by the body.

#### **749. DIMENSIONS**

**What are the three dimensions of space?**

The three dimensions are, length, breadth, and thickness.

#### **750. DINOSAURS**

**In the age of reptiles who were dinosaurs?**

These were monster reptiles alleged to be 80 ft long and weighing 40 tons.



## **751. DISARMAMENT**

**What does disarmament stand for?**

It stands for the abolition of the weapons of war.

## **752. DISCIPLINE**

**What is discipline?**

Discipline is a pattern of behaviour when one acts according to expectations.

## **753. DISCUSSION**

**What is discussion?**

It is the process of the interaction of ideas. It is a discovery. As a result of discussion one may find out what one did not know, what he has overlooked, and wherein he is mistaken both as to facts and the method of interpreting them.

## **754. DISINFECTION**

**What is disinfection?**

Disinfection is the process whereby micro-organisms are killed. The physical means of disinfection include heat, exposure to sunlight etc. The chemical means include the use of chemical compounds like Hydrogen per oxide, Chlorine etc.

## **755. DISTANCE**

**What is the distance upto which one can see?**

At plain level one can see upto 2 miles. At a height of 20 ft. one can see upto 6 miles. From 300 ft cliff one can see upto 30 miles. From 3500 ft mountain the vision is upto 80 miles.

## **756. DIVING, RECORD**

**What is the record for high diving?**

Samuel Scott of USA made the record in 1840 when he made a dive of 497 ft at Pattise Fall in Wisconsin in 1840.

## **757. DIVORCE**

**What is divorce?**

It is the legal ending of a marriage.



## 758. DIZZY

**When a person moving around at high speed stops suddenly why does he feel dizzy?**

The sensitive liquid in the inner ear which mainly controls balance continues to move around for a time after the body has stopped moving. So the surroundings appear to be still in motion though the person is no longer in motion. That produces the sense of dizziness.

## 759. DOME, LARGEST

**Which is the largest dome in the world?**

The largest dome is the 'Astrodome' of the Harris Sports Stadium, Houston, USA. It has an outside diameter of 710 ft and inside diameter of 642 ft.

## 760. DOMICILE

**What is domicile?**

It is one's legally recognised place of residence.

## 761. DON, RIVER

**Where is the Don river?**

It is the third largest river of European Russia. It rises in Central Asia and falls in the Sea of Azov after a course of 1300 miles.

## 762. DOPPLER EFFECT

**What is the Doppler effect?**

It is the theory that there is a change in the frequency of a vibration due to relative motion of the observer. The sound of an approaching locomotive's whistle will be of a higher pitch as compared with that of a receding locomotive. Similar is the case with light.

## 763. DRAGON TREE

**What is a dragon tree?**

It is a tree which grows in the Canary Islands and yields a dark red resin known as 'dragon's blood'.



## **764. DREAMS, REMEMBRANCE**

**Why do we remember some dreams and not others?**

When we dream the brain is in a peculiar state. If the brain is active at the time of the dream we remember the dream; if the brain is not active we do not remember the dream.

## **765. DREDGING**

**What is dredging?**

It is the removal of mud and other material under water for the purpose of deepening the bed of the river,

## **766. DROUGHT**

**What is drought?**

It is the condition of severe dryness due to the absence of rain.

## **767. DROUGHT, LONGEST**

**What is the record for the longest drought in the world?**

In the Atacama desert in Chile there has been no rain for the last 400 years.

## **768. DRUPES**

**Which fruits are drupes?**

Cherries, plums, peaches and apricots are drupes, wherein are hard stony covered seeds surrounded by fleshy edible ovary walls.

## **769. DRY ICE**

**What is dry ice and why is it so called?**

It is frozen carbon dioxide. When this gas is cooled to a temperature of  $-78.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ , it becomes a solid without first becoming a liquid. That is why it is called dry ice. When dry ice is exposed to the air, it evaporates without going through melting stage.

## **770. DRY STICKS**

**Why do two dry sticks when rubbed together catch fire?**

By rubbing the molecules in the two sticks are set in motion, and by such motion they produce heat by which the dry sticks catch fire.



### **771. DUCK**

**In Cricket what is a duck?**

It is when the batsman retires without scoring a single run.

### **772. DUCK-FEATHERS**

**Why do the feathers of ducks not get wet in water?**

That is because these are covered with an oil which makes them water proof. Near the duck's tail is an oily gland which secretes oil. This oil is spread over the feathers and keeps them water proof.

### **773. DUCKBILL**

**Which is the mammal that lays eggs?**

Duckbill is a mammal but it lays eggs.

### **774. DUCTILITY**

**What is ductility?**

It is the property by virtue of which a substance can be drawn into thin wires. Platinum is the most ductile substance.

### **775. DULONG AND PETIT LAW**

**In heat what is Dulong and Petit Law?**

The law is that the product of atomic weight and specific heat of all solid elements is the same being nearly 6.4.

### **776. DUMAS, ALEXANDRE**

**Who was Alexandre Dumas?**

Alexandre Dumas (1803—1870) was a French novelist. His well known novels are 'Three Musketeers'; 'Les Miserables'; and 'Monte Cristo'.

### **777. DURAND LINE**

**What is the Durand line?**

It is the boundary between Pakistan and Afghanistan.



## **778. DUST**

**What is dust, and what is its quantity in the air?**

Dust are small particles of matter fine enough to be carried in suspension by the wind.

On an average one cubic mile of air contains 400 tons of dust.

## **779. DUST BOWL**

**What is a dust bowl?**

It is a semi-arid area from the surface of which, the soil has been removed by the wind.

## **780. DUST DEVIL**

**What is a dust devil?**

It is a swirling wind that whips dust to form a rapidly moving column.

## **781. DUTCH METAL**

**What is dutch metal?**

It is an alloy of copper (11 parts), and zinc (2 parts) used as imitation gold leaf.

## **782. DWARFS**

**What is the record about dwarfs?**

Among males the record is that of Calvin Phikips Bridgewater USA who was 2 ft 2½ inches tall.

Among women the record is that of the Dutch princess Pauline who was 23.2 inches tall. She died in 1895.

## **783. DYNAGRAPH**

**What is dynagraph?**

It is an instrument for recording the conditions of a railway line and the speed of trains.

## **784. DYNAMICS**

**What is Dynamics?**

It is a branch of Mechanics which studies the motion of bodies.



## **785. DYNAMO**

**What is a dynamo, and how does it work?**

A dynamo is a machine for transforming mechanical energy into electrical energy.

The two essential parts are the conductors or armature and the field magnets.

It works on the principle of electro magnetic induction whereby a current is produced in a conductor traversing a magnetic field.

## **E**

## **786. EARTH, DIMENSIONS**

**What are the dimensions of the earth?**

The dimensions are:

- (1) Diameter: 7927 miles;
- (2) Circumference: 24000 miles.
- (3) Surface area: 196,937,000 sq. miles;
- (4) Volume: 259,875,424,000 cubic miles.

## **787. EARTH, HEALTHY SEGMENT**

**Which is the most healthy segment of the earth's surface?**

The polar regions are the healthiest part of the earth's surface.

## **788. EARTH, INTERIOR**

**How does the temperature vary as we descend into the interior of the earth?**

The temperature increases by 1 degree C for every 100 ft of descent.

## **789. EARTH, ORBIT**

**What is the length of the orbit of the earth round the sun?**

The length of the earth's orbit round the sun is 583,825,765 miles.

## **790. EARTHEN DAM, BIGGEST**

**Which is the biggest earthen dam in the world?**

The Fort Peck dam across the Missouri river in Montana USA is the biggest earthen dam. It consists of some 125 million cubic yard of earth and rock.



### **791. EARTH MAKER**

**Which element is called the earth maker?**

Silicon is known as the earth maker.

### **792. EARTH-MAN**

**What is the age of the earth, and when did Man appear there?**

The age of the earth is estimated at 500 crore years. Man appeared at a very late stage about 5 lakh years ago.

### **793. EARTHEN POT**

**Why does water keep cool in an earthen pot in the summer?**

An earthen pot has small pores from which water oozes out. This water evaporates. Heat is absorbed from the surface of the pot thus causing cooling.

### **794. EARTHQUAKE**

**What is an earthquake?**

It is a movement of the earth's crust. It may be caused by volcanic eruption or by folding and faulting of rock strata.

### **795. EARTHWORK**

**What is the most remarkable thing about a earthworm?**

The most remarkable thing about earthworms is that every earthworm is both a male and a female.

### **796. EARTHWORM, LONGEST**

**How long is the longest earthworm?**

It is 12 ft long. It is found in Australia.

### **797. EASTER**

**What is the Easter, and when is it celebrated?**

It is a festival of the Christians held to commemorate the Resurrection of Jesus. It is held on the first Sunday after the first full moon after March 21.



### **798. EASTERN GATEWAY**

**Which city is known as the "Eastern gateway of Europe"?**

Constantinople (Now Istanbul) is known as the eastern gateway of Europe.

### **799. EAU DE COLOGNE**

**Why is Eau de Cologne so called?**

It is so called because it was first manufactured in Cologne (France).

### **800. ECHO**

**What is an echo?**

It is the repetition of a sound caused by the reflection of its waves from a surface.

### **801. ECHO SOUNDING**

**What is echo sounding?**

It is the method by which ships determine the depth of water by recording the time taken by a sound wave to travel and return from the sea bed.

### **802. ECLIPSE, LUNAR**

**When does the lunar eclipse occur?**

It occurs when the earth passes between the moon and the sun causing a darkening of the moon.

### **803. ECLIPSE, SOLAR**

**When does a solar eclipse occur?**

A solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the sun and the earth, thus shutting light from the sun.

### **804. ECOLOGY, PRINCIPLES**

**What are the main principles of Ecology?**

The main principles are:

- (1) that the pattern of life reflects the pattern of the physical environments; and



- (2) that plants and animals tend to group themselves into different associations to form communities.

### **805. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND FAR EAST (ECAFE)**

**What is the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East?**

It is a regional commission of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Its headquarters are at Bangkok. It has been set up for the economic development of Asia and Far East by promoting better social, economic, educational and health conditions in the countries of the region.

### **806. ECONOMETRICS**

**What is Econometrics?**

It is the use of mathematical and statistical methods in the field of economics to verify and develop economic theories.

### **807. ECONOMICS**

**What is Economics?**

It is the science that deals with the production, distribution and consumption of wealth, and with the various related problems of labour, finance, taxation etc.

### **808. ECOSOL**

**What is Ecosol?**

It is the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

### **809. ECOSPHERE**

**What is ecosphere?**

It is that zone of the earth or a planet which is capable of containing living organisms.

### **810. ECSTASY**

**What is ecstasy?**

It is a state of being overpowered by emotion.



### **811. ECUADOR**

**Why is Ecuador so named?**

It is so named because the equator passes through it.

### **812. EDDY**

**In a storm what is an eddy?**

It is the stream of water that flows in a circle and not straight.

### **813. EDEN**

**What was Eden?**

It was the garden in paradise where Adam and Eve lived before their descent to the earth.

### **814. EDISON**

**Who was Thomas Alva Edison?**

Thomas Alva Edison (1837—1931) was a great inventor. He patented 1100 inventions. Most important of his inventions are incandescent lamp and phonogram.

### **815. EDIT**

**In the case of a manuscript what is editing?**

It is its revision, re-arrangement, annotation, and making it ready for the press.

### **816. EDP**

**What is EDP?**

It is electronic data processing.

### **817. EDUCATION**

**What is education?**

Education is the development of one's latent faculties. It is to be interpreted as the operation of all forces that act upon a person from without to influence the way in which he thinks, feels and behaves.



### **818. EDWARD VIII**

**What is the most conspicuous thing about the British king Edward VIII**

The most conspicuous thing about him is that he abdicated the throne for the love of a woman.

### **819. EFFERVESCENCE**

**In a carbonated beverage what is effervescence?**

It is the process of the giving off of gas bubbles.

### **820. EFFICIENCY**

**What is efficiency?**

It is the ability to produce the desired effect.

### **821. EFFORT**

**In the case of a machine, what is the effort?**

It is the force applied on the machine.

### **822. EFFUSION**

**In Physics what is Effusion?**

It is the passage of a gas under pressure through an orifice whose size is smaller than the mean free path of the gas molecules.

### **823. EGG, GOOD OR BAD**

**How would you determine whether an egg is good or bad?**

Put the egg in a tumbler full of water. A good egg will sink, while the bad egg would float.

### **824. EGG, LARGEST**

**Which bird lays the largest egg?**

The Ostrich lays the largest egg. Its egg is 18 times the egg of a hen,



## 825. EGG, SMALLEST

**Which bird lays the smallest egg?**

Hummingbird lays the smallest egg. The egg of this bird is only quarter of an inch long.

## 826. EGG, VARNISHED

**Why would no chicken come out of an egg which is varnished?**

When an egg is varnished the pores get closed and no air gets through the shell. As a result the egg dies, and so no chicken comes out of it.

## 827. EGO

**What is Ego?**

It is the rational aspect of the personality. It regulates the impulses of the individual in order to meet the demands of reality and maintain social approval and self-esteem. More generally it is the individual's concept of self.

## 828. EGOISM, DOCTRINE OF

**What is the doctrine of egoism?**

The doctrine is that we have proof of nothing but of our own existence. It stands for self-interest and self deification.

## 829. EGYPTOLOGY

**What is Egyptology?**

It is the study of ancient Egyptian culture and antiquities.

## 830. EIFFEL TOWER

**What is the Eiffel Tower?**

It is a 984 ft high iron tower at Paris built in 1885 and named after the engineer Alexandra Gustave Eiffel.

## 831. EINSTEIN

**Who was Albert Einstein?**

Albert Einstein (1879—1955) is regarded as the greatest scientist of the 20th century. He formulated the theory of relativity.



### **832. EINSTEIN'S LAW OF MASS AND ENERGY**

**What is Einstein's law of mass and energy?**

The law is that the mass and energy are inter convertible aspects of the same property, and that when a body gives up energy, it also loses mass.

Mathematically the law is  $E=mc$

E is the energy; m is the mass, and c is the velocity of light.

### **833. EISENHOWER DOCTRINE**

**What is the Eisenhower doctrine?**

The doctrine enunciated by President Eisenhower in 1957 provided that USA armed forces would be used to secure and protect the independence of nations requesting such aid; that USA would provide economic aid, and military aid to those who desire it.

### **834. EKISTICS**

**What is Ekistics?**

It is the science of city and area planning, dealing with the integration of both the individual and the entire community, as transportation, communication, education, entertainment etc.

### **835. ELAN VITAL**

**In Bergson's philosophy what is 'elan vital'?**

It is the original vital impulse which is the substance of consciousness and nature.

### **836. ELBA**

**Where is the Elba island?**

It is in the Mediterranean Sea between Italy and Corsica. It was the site of Napoleon's first exile 1814-15. It is 86 square miles in area.

### **837. ELBE**

**Where is the Elbe river?**

It is a river in Central Europe. It has a course of 720 miles. It flows from Czechoslovakia through Germany to North Sea.



### **838. ELBURZ**

**Where are the Elburz mountains?**

These are mountains in North Iran along the Caspian Sea. The highest peak is Mt. Damavend 18600 ft.

### **839. EL-DORADO**

**What is El-Dorado?**

It is the golden land of imagination.

### **840. ELECTION**

**What is election?**

It is the process of choosing representatives through ballot.

### **841. ELECTRIC BULB**

**Why does an electric bulb make a bang when it is broken?**

An electric bulb has a partial vacuum. When the bulb is broken the air rushes in to fill the vacuum, and this rush of air produces the banging sound.

### **842. ELECTRIC IRON**

**How does an electric iron work?**

The electric iron comprises a coil of nichrome placed between pieces of mica, with a thick base of cast iron. When the electric current passes through the nichrome wire, it offers great resistance and thereby produces heat which it conducts to the metallic base through the mica pieces.

### **843. ELECTRIC LAMP, SWITCH**

**How does a switch operate on an electric lamp?**

When the switch is pressed the electric circuit is completed and the current flows in the lamp.

### **844. ELECTRICITY—DISCOVERY**

**In simple words what is the greatest discovery about electricity?**

The greatest discovery about electricity is that all things are made of electricity.



## **845. ELECTRICITY, NAME**

**Why was electricity named as such?**

It was found that amber the Greek name for which is electron, is rubbed it attracts light things and produces an effect. This effect was named electricity after amber (electron).

## **846. ELECTRIC LAMP—FILAMENT**

**Why does the filament of an electric lamp glow when the current passes through it?**

The filament has a high resistance. When the current passes through it, it gets heated and becoming white hot gives out light.

## **847. ELECTRIC POWER STATIONS**

**What are the main types of electric power stations?**

There are three types namely thermal, hydro-electric, and nuclear.

## **848. ELECTRO-CHEMISTRY**

**What is Electro-Chemistry?**

It is the science dealing with chemical reactions that produce or are produced by an electric current.

## **849. ELECTROCUTION**

**What is electrocution?**

It is death through the passage of electric current.

In USA the death penalty is inflicted through electrocution. The criminals are electrocuted by the passage of a current of electricity of a very high voltage.

## **850. ELECTROLYSIS**

**What is electrolysis?**

It is the process of chemical decomposition by an electric current.

## **851. ELECTRON**

**What is an electron?**

It is a particle of a very small mass and negative charge which forms part of an atom.



A Hydrogen atom for example consists of a positively charged nucleus (proton) and one electron going round it.

## **852. ELECTRON THEORY**

**Who propounded the electron theory?**

It was propounded by Sir J.J. Thomson (1856—1940).

## **853. ELECTRONICS**

**What is Electronics?**

It is the science of electro-magnetic waves.

## **854. ELECTROPHORUS**

**What is an electrophorus?**

It is a machine for producing electricity by induction.

## **855. ELECTRO-PLATING**

**What is electro-plating?**

It is a process by which a thin layer of one metal is deposited electrolytically upon another metallic surface.

## **856. ELECTROSTATICS**

**What is Electrostatics?**

It is the study of the behaviour of stationary electric charges.

## **857. ELECTUARY**

**What is electuary?**

It is a medicine mixed with some sweet substance.

## **858. ELEMENTS**

**What are elements?**

Elements are the basic constituents of all matter. An element is the simplest form of matter. It cannot be formed from simpler substances nor can it be decomposed into simpler varieties of matter. Some elements exist free in nature; others are found only in combi-



nation. Free or combined they are the building blocks which make up every different variety of matter in the universe.

105 elements have been listed so far. 92 out of these occur in nature; 13 have been made in the laboratory, artificially through transmutation.

### **859. ELEMENTS—DISTRIBUTION**

**If all matter were to be broken down into elements which form it, what will be the percentage of each element in nature?**

The percentage would be: Oxygen 49.9; Silicon 26; Aluminium 7.3; Iron 4.1; Calcium 3.2; Sodium 2.3; Potassium 2.3; Magnesium 2.1; the rest 2.8.

### **860. ELIOT, GEORGE**

**Who was George Eliot?**

George Eliot was the pen name of Mary Ann Evans (1819—1880). She is regarded as England's greatest woman novelist. Her well known novels are 'Adam Bede'; 'Mill on the Floss'; and 'Romola'.

### **861. ELITE**

**In a society who are the elite?**

They are the chooce part and the most distinguished.

### **862. ELIZABETH I**

**Who was Elizabeth I?**

She was the queen of England from 1558 to 1603. She was the daughter of Henry VIII. She remained unmarried.

### **863. ELIZABETH II**

**Who is Elizabeth II?**

She is the reigning monarch of England. She came to the throne in 1952 on the death of her father George VI. She is married to Philip Duke of Edinburg.

### **864. ELYSEE PALACE**

**Where is Elysee Palace?**

It is the official residence of the President of France in Paris.



### **865. ELYSIUM**

**What is elysium?**

It is any place or condition of ideal bliss or complete happiness.

### **866. EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION**

**What was the emancipation proclamation?**

It was a proclamation issued by President Lincoln of USA in September 1862 freeing the slaves.

### **867. EMBALMING**

**What is embalming?**

It is the process by which dead bodies are preserved from decay by means of spices and drugs.

### **868. EMBROIDERY**

**What is embroidery?**

It is the art of decorating materials by means of needle and thread.

### **869. EMERALD ISLE**

**Which country is known as the Emerald Isle?**

Ireland is known as the Emerald Isle because of the rare greenness of the countryside.

### **870. EMETIC**

**What is an emetic?**

It is a medicine which causes vomiting.

### **871. EMINENT DOMAIN**

**In law, what is eminent domain?**

It is the right of government to take private property for public use usually on the payment of suitable compensation.



## **872. EMOTION**

**What is emotion?**

It is a state of strong feeling and excitement.

## **873. EMPIRICAL FORMULA**

**In Chemistry what is an empirical formula?**

It is a formula which gives the composition of elements in a molecule in their lowest relative proportions.

## **874. EMPIRICISM**

**What is the concept of empiricism?**

The concept is that all knowledge is the outcome of experience conveyed through senses, and that which cannot be comprehended by senses can be ignored.

## **875. EMU**

**What is an emu?**

It is a large bird found in Australia only. It resembles an ostrich and cannot fly.

## **876. ENCLAVE**

**What is enclave?**

It is a territory surrounded by the territory of another country.

## **877. ENCOMIUM**

**What is encomium?**

It is formal expression of high praise.

## **878. ENCYCLOPAEDIA, COMPREHENSIVE**

**Which is the most comprehensive encyclopaedia in the world?**

The most comprehensive encyclopaedia is the Encyclopaedia Britannica consisting of 24 volumes, 28380 pages, 34696 articles, 22670 illustrations and 36 crore words.



### **879. ENDEMIC DISEASE**

**What is an endemic disease?**

It is a disease which is very common in a country.

### **880. ENDOGAMY**

**What is endogamy?**

It is the forbidding of marriage outside a particular group.

### **881. ENDOTHERMIC REACTION**

**What is endothermic reaction?**

It is chemical reaction which is accompanied by absorption of heat.

### **882. ENERGY**

**In Mechanics when is a body said to possess energy?**

A body is said to possess energy when it is capable of doing work.

### **883. ENERGY CONSUMPTION, PER CAPITA**

**On the basis of energy consumption per capita which are the main leading and backward countries in the world?**

The leading countries are: USA 9828 KWH; Canada 8000 KWH; Kuwait 6648 KWH; Czechoslovakia 5487 KWH; UK 5003 KWH; Australia 4791 KWH; Sweden 4787 KWH; Denmark 4264 KWH; Japan 2323 KWH.

The backward countries are: Rwanda 8 KWH; Nepal 10 KWH; Burundi 12 KWH.

In Pakistan the per capita consumption is 92 KWH.

### **884. ENERGY—KINETIC AND POTENTIAL**

**What is the difference between kinetic and potential energy?**

Kinetic energy is possessed by a body by virtue of its motion, whereas potential energy is possessed by a body by virtue of its position.



### **885. ENERGY-QUANTUM**

**What is the quantum of energy that would be released as a result of the destruction of 1 gram of mass?**

If the consumption of electric energy in a house were 25 units per month, the energy produced by the destruction of one gram of mass would be enough to provide energy to the house for 80,000 years.

### **886. ENGINE**

**What is an engine?**

It is any machine that uses energy to develop mechanical power.

### **887. ENGINEERING**

**What is engineering?**

It is the science concerned with putting scientific knowledge to practical use.

### **888. ENGLAND, KINGS AND QUEENS**

**Who have been the kings and queens of England during the 19th and 20th centuries?**

The kings and queens have been (1) George III 1760—1820; (2) George IV 1820—1830; (3) William IV 1830—1837; (4) Victoria 1837—1901; (5) Edward VI 1901—1910; (6) George V 1910—1936; Edward VIII 1936; (8) George VI 1936—1952; (9) Elizabeth II since 1952.

### **889. ENGLISH CHANNEL**

**What is the English channel?**

It is an arm of the Atlantic Ocean between England and France. It is 350 miles long and 21—150 miles wide.

### **890. ENGRAVING**

**What is engraving?**

It is the process of cutting a design into a hard surface.

### **891. ENIGMA**

**What is an enigma?**

It is something obscure, a statement with a hidden meaning to be guessed.



## **892. ENLIGHTENMENT—AGE OF**

**In history which period is known as the age of enlightenment?**

The 18th century is known as the age of enlightenment because the writers of the period applied reason to religion, politics, morality and social life.

## **893. ENTENTE**

**What is entente?**

It is an agreement or understanding between two or more countries.

## **894. ENTERPRISE**

**When is a person said to be enterprising?**

He is said to be enterprising when he is willing to undertake new and risky projects.

## **895. ENTHUSIASM**

**What is enthusiasm?**

It is intense and eager interest.

## **896. ENTOMOLOGY**

**What is Entomology?**

It is the science that studies insects, their evolution, distribution and classification.

## **897. ENVIRONMENT**

**In psychology what is environment?**

It is the totality of conditions within and surrounding the organism that serve to stimulate behaviour or act to bring about change in behaviour.

## **898. ENZYMES**

**What are enzymes?**

These are chemical substances in plants and animals which induce or hasten chemical changes, as in digestion, without being themselves changed by the process.



## **899. EOLITHIC AGE**

**What was eolithic age?**

It was the early part of the stone age during which crude stone tools were used.

## **900. E.O.M.**

**What does 'e.o.m.' stand for?**

It stands for 'end of the month'.

## **901. EPIC**

**What is an epic?**

It is a long narrative poem that relates heroic events in an elevated style.

## **902. EPICENTRE**

**What is an epicentre?**

It is the point at which an earthquake breaks out.

## **903. EPICUREAN**

**Who is an epicurean?**

He is a person who is fond of eating, drinking and enjoyment.

## **904. EPIDEMIC**

**What is an epidemic?**

It is a wide spread infectious disease.

## **905. EPIDEMIOLOGY**

**What is Epidemiology?**

It is the study of the spread of diseases.

## **906. EPIGRAM**

**What is an epigram?**

It is a concise and pointed saying, characterised by wit and ingenuity.



Coleridge has defined it as follows:  
"What's an epigram, a dwarfish whole:  
Its body brevity, and wit its soul".

### **907. EPIGRAPH**

**In a book what is an epigraph?**

It is a motto or quotation at the beginning of a book or chapter.

### **908. EPIPHANY**

**What is epiphany?**

It is the sudden revelation of the essential nature of a person or situation, the moment when the soul of the object becomes manifest.

### **909. EPISTEMOLOGY**

**What is Epistemology?**

It is the study of the origin, nature, methods and limits of knowledge.

### **910. EPOCH**

**What is an epoch?**

It is a point of time fixed or made remarkable by some great event from which dates are reckoned.

### **911. EQUATION**

**In Mathematics what is an equation?**

It is a statement that two quantities are equal.

### **912. EQUATOR**

**What is the equator?**

It is an imaginary line that runs round the centre of the earth dividing it into two equal parts.

### **913. EQUILIBRIUM**

**When are the forces said to be in equilibrium?**

When two or more forces act upon a body and are so arranged that the body does not change its state of rest or motion, the forces are said to be in equilibrium.



#### **914. EQUINOX**

**What is the Equinox?**

It is the period when the equator lies in the plane of the earth's orbit and day and night are equal in length. The vernal equinox occurs on 21/22 March, and the autumnal equinox occurs on 21/22 September.

#### **915. EQUITY**

**What is Equity?**

It is a system of law designed to furnish remedies for wrongs for which no remedy is provided under ordinary law.

#### **916. EQUIVOCATION**

**What is equivocation?**

It is using the same word in different senses in the same argument e.g. killing a man is murder; capital punishment is killing.

#### **917. ERAS**

**When did the Jewish, Roman, Vikrama, Saka, and Islamic eras begin?**

These began as follows (1) Jewish October 7, 3761 BC; (2) Roman: 24th April 753 BC; (3) Vikrama; 23rd February 57 BC; (4) Saka: March 3, 78 AD; (5) Islamic 16th July 622 AD.

#### **918. ERASTIANISM**

**What is Erastianism?**

It is the concept that the State has the right to decide the religion of her members.

#### **919. ERATOSTHENES**

**Who was Eratosthenes?**

He was a Greek mathematician (276—194 BC). He was the first to calculate the circumference of the earth.

#### **920. ERGONOMICS**

**What is ergonomics?**

It is the study of man in relation to his working environments.



## **921. EROSION**

**What is erosion?**

It is gradual removing or wearing away of portion of the earth's surface by natural agencies such as rain, snow, and wind.

## **922. ESCALATOR**

**What is an escalator?**

It is a moving stair case which carries passengers up and down.

## **923. ESCAPE VELOCITY**

**What is escape velocity?**

It is the minimum velocity which will enable an object to escape from the surface of a planet.

The escape velocity in the case of the earth is 7 miles per second. In the case of the moon it is 1.5 miles per second.

Among the planets the highest escape velocity is in the case of the Jupiter 37.3 miles per second.

## **924. ESCHEAT**

**In law, what is escheat?**

It is the lapsing of property to the State on the owner's death without heirs.

## **925. ESPRIT DE CORPS**

**What is esprit de corps?**

It is team spirit.

## **926. ETHICS**

**What is ethics?**

It is the study of morality and moral values.

## **927. ETHNOLOGY**

**What is Ethnology?**

It is the science which studies the physical differences between the various human races.



## **928. ENTIOLOGY**

**What is Entiology?**

It is the science of the causes and origins of diseases.

## **929. EUCALYPTUS**

**What is the utility of the Eucalyptus tree?**

It is planted in swampy regions and by drawing water out of the mosquito infested swamps, it helps fight malaria.

Its leaves are dotted with pores which provides man with Eucalyptus oil. This is used as a medicine to clear the nasal passage.

## **930. EUGENICS**

**What is Eugenics?**

It is the study of the improvement of human race by applying the laws of heredity.

## **931. EUPHRATES**

**Where is the Euphrates river?**

It is an important river of Iraq. Its course is 1700 miles. It rises in Eastern Turkey and flows through Syria and Iraq to the Persian Gulf.

## **932. EUROPE, CITIES**

**Which are the main cities of Europe?**

These are: London; Paris; Madrid; Lisbon; Bonn; Berlin; Antwerp; Hague; Vienna; Prague; Budapest; Rome; Athens; Tirana; Moscow; Brussels; Stockholm.

## **933. EUROPE, COUNTRIES**

**Which are the countries of Europe?**

These are: Austria; Belgium; Bulgaria; Cyprus; Czechoslovakia; Denmark; Estonia; Finland; France; Germany East; Germany West; Greece; Hungary; Iceland; Ireland; Italy; Liechtenstein; Lithunia; Luxemburg; Monaco; Malta; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Rumania; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; U.K.; and USSR.



### **934. EUROPE, MOUNTAINS**

**Which are the main mountains of Europe?**

These are Pyrennes; Alps; Carpathians; Scandanavian mountains; Balkans and Caucasus.

### **935. EUROPE, RIVERS**

**Which are the main rivers of Europe?**

These are: Thames; Seine; Rhine; Elbe; Oder; Vistula; Dvina; Pechora; Rhone; Po; Danube; Dneister; Dnieper; Don; Volga; and Ural.

### **936. EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY**

**What is the European Coal and Steel Community?**

It is an economic organisation set up in 1952 by Belgium, France, Luxemburg; Italy; Netherlands and West Germany to pool their coal and steel resources in order to exploit them to the maximum common good.

### **937. EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY**

**What is the European Economic Community?**

It is an econpmic union under the treaty of Rome 1957 between six European nations; France; German Federal Republic; Italy; Belgium; Netherlands and Luxemburg.

### **938. EUROPEAN PLAN**

**With reference to hotels what is the European plan?**

It is a system of hotel operation in which the rate charge to guests covers rooms and service but not the meals.

### **939. EUTHENICS**

**What is Euthenics?**

It is the science concerned with the improvement of mankind by effecting improvements in environmental conditions such as food, education, housing etc.



#### **940. EVAPORATION**

**What is the volume of water that is evaporated annually?**

The volume is 53000 billion cubic feet.

#### **941. EVIDENCE**

**In law, what is evidence?**

It refers to all facts, testimony and documents presented for the purpose of proving or disproving a question under inquiry.

#### **942. EVOLUTION**

**What is the theory of evolution and on what concepts is it based?**

The theory of evolution as propounded by Charles Larwin is that all life on the earth has progressively evolved and developed through the course of ages.

The theory is based on three concepts, the concept of the struggle for existence, the concept of natural selection or survival of the fittest, and the concept of variation.

The concept of the struggle for existence is that in order to live all living things have to carry on an intense struggle.

The concept of natural selection and the survival of the fittest is that in the struggle for existence only such organisms survive which are best fitted and adapted to their environment, and that those which are unfit progressively disappear.

The concept of variation is that no two living things are alike.

#### **943. EXCAVATORS**

**What are excavators?**

These are vehicles which remove earth from above or below their own level.

#### **944. EXCISE**

**What is excise?**

It is a duty or tax imposed on the production of articles.



#### **945. EXCLUSION PRINCIPLE**

**What is the Exclusion principle?**

The principle is that two material particles cannot be in the same place at the same time.

#### **946. EXCRETION**

**In the human body what is excretion?**

It is the process by which waste matter is removed from the cells and then eliminated from the body.

#### **947. EXHAUST GAS**

**In the case of a motor car what is the exhaust gas?**

It is Carbon Monoxide.

#### **948. EXHIBITIONISM**

**In Psychology what is exhibitionism?**

It is behaviour designed to attract attention usually stemming from an inferiority complex.

#### **949. EXHIBITIONISM**

**What is exhibitionism?**

It is a disease in which the sufferer shows in public parts of the body usually kept hidden.

#### **950. EXISTENTIALISM**

**What is Existentialism?**

It is a system of philosophy the main doctrine whereof is that 'facts come before the idea'.

#### **951. EXO BIOLOGY**

**What is Exobiology?**

It is the science dealing with life and the possibility of life on planets other than the earth.



## **952. EXOSPHERE**

**What is the Exosphere?**

It is the outermost layer of the atmosphere beyond the Ionosphere. The air in this layer is highly rarified.

## **953. EXPLORERS, AFRICA**

**Name the well known explorers of Africa?**

These are:

- (1) James Bruce (d 1794) who discovered the source of the Blue Nile.
- (2) Mungo Park (d 1806) who discovered the Niger.
- (3) Richard Burton (d 1890) who discovered Lake Tanganyika and Lake Victoria.
- (4) David Livingstone (d 1873) who discovered Zambesi and Congo.
- (5) Henry Morton Stanley (d 1904) who discovered the Ruwenzori Mountains.

## **954. EXPLOSIVES**

**What are explosives?**

These are substances which decompose violently when fired, liberating gases.

## **955. EXPRESSIONISM**

**In art, what is expressionism?**

It is a movement in which the artist seeks to portray not what he perceives from without, but what he feels from within himself.

## **956. EXTERNAL STIMULUS**

**What time is taken by human body to react to an external stimulus?**

The time taken is one fifth of a second.

## **957. EXTRUSION**

**What is extrusion?**

It is the process of making a metal rod by forcing a piece of the hot softened metal through a die hole of the right size.



### **958. EYE, CELLS**

**What is the number of cells in each human eye?**

The number of such cells is about 13 crore.

### **959. EYE DROPPER**

**Why does the liquid not run out of the eye dropper?**

That is because one end of the dropper is closed by the rubber nipple.

## **F**

### **960. FABLE**

**What is a fable?**

It is a fictitious story meant to teach a lesson. The characters are usually talking animals.

### **961. FACADE**

**In a building what is a facade?**

It is the front part of a building facing a street.

### **962. FACIAL INDEX**

**What is the facial index?**

It is the ratio of the length to the width of the face.

### **963. FACSIMILE**

**What is facsimile?**

It is an exact reproduction or copy.

### **964. FACTORY**

**What is a factory?**

It is any premises where things are manufactured.

### **965. FACTUALISM**

**What is factualism?**

It is the concept of adherence to facts.



## **966. FACULTY**

**In a living organism what is a faculty?**

It is any natural or specialised power of a living organism.

## **967. FADE OUT**

**In a motion picture what is fade out?**

It is gradual disappearance or becoming indistinct of a scene or sound.

## **968. FAG END**

**What is fag end?**

It is the last and worst end of anything.

## **969. FAIR CATCH**

**In football what is a fair catch?**

It is a catch of a kicked ball made after giving the proper signal that no attempt will be made to run with the ball.

## **970. FAIR DEAL**

**What policy was named as the Fair Deal?**

It was the policy enunciated by President Truman in 1949. It provided for the improvement of US standard of living especially among the lower income groups and to extend social justice by fair labour legislation.

## **971. FAITH**

**According to Islam what is faith or Iman?**

It is the belief of the heart and the confession of the lips to the truth of Islam. It stands for such a strong belief as would motivate the believer to strive his utmost to live upto the articles of faith.

## **972. FAIZ**

**Name some of the poetical works of the Pakistani poet Faiz Ahmad Fair?**

His main works are 'Dast-e-Saba'; 'Naqshi Fariadi'; and 'Zinda Nama'.



### **973. FANATIC**

**Who is a fanatic?**

He is a person whose extreme zeal for any cause goes beyond what is reasonable.

### **974. FANCY DRESS**

**What is fancy dress?**

It is masquerade costume.

### **975. FANG**

**In the case of a snake what is a fang?**

It is a long hollow or grooved teeth through which the snake injects its venom.

### **976. FANTASY**

**What is fantasy?**

It is an illusion, something wild and imaginary.

### **977. FARADAY**

**Who was Michael Faraday?**

Michael Faraday (1791—1867) was a British physicist and chemist. He discovered electrical induction, the relation of the electric and magnetic forces, and atmospheric magnetism.

### **978. FARADAY'S LAW OF ELECTROLYSIS**

**What is Faraday's law of electrolysis?**

The law is that the weight of a substance set free on electrolysis is proportional to the current which passes and the time for which it passes.

### **979. FARIDUDDIN ATTAR**

**Who was Fariduddin Attar?**

Fariduddin Attar (d 1230) was a saint and Persian poet. He was a master of allegory. His poem 'The Assembly of Birds' is a mystical treatise in verse.



## **980. FASCISM**

**What was Fascism?**

It was anti-communist, authoritarian, political creed established in Italy under Mussolini.

## **981. FASTIDIOUS**

**Who is a fastidious person?**

He is a person who is very critical or discriminating, and who is refined in a too dainty or oversensitive way so as to be easily disgusted.

## **982. FAT**

**When people put in weight and become fat what is that due to?**

This is due to the fact that these people are taking in more calories than they are using up as energy and the extra is being stored as fat.

## **983. FATS**

**What are fats?**

These are organic compounds greasy to the touch and capable of being dissolved in ether, alcohol, and chloroform.

## **984. FATHER**

**Who are regarded as Fathers of astronomy, epic poetry, biography, medicine, history and chemistry?**

These are:

Astronomy; Copernicus;  
Epic Poetry; Homer;  
Biography; Plutarch;  
History Herodotus;  
Medicine; Hippocrates; and  
Chemistry; Lavoisier.

## **985. FATHER'S DAY**

**In USA what is the Father's Day?**

It is the third Sunday in June, a day set aside in honour of fathers.



## **986. FATIGUE**

**What causes fatigue?**

When we work hard certain poisons are produced and the proper circulation of the blood is affected whereby fatigue is produced. The remedy for fatigue is to take rest to enable the body get rid of such poisons.

## **987. FAULT**

**In a rock what is a fault?**

It is the place where rock layers have cracked and slipped so that a layer does not lie at the same level on each side of the fault.

## **988. FAULT, GREATEST**

**What is the greatest of faults?**

The greatest of faults is to be conscious of none.

## **989. FAUNA**

**What is fauna?**

These are animals within a given life zone or natural habitat.

## **990. FAVOURITE SON**

**Who is a favourite son?**

He is a famous man honoured and praised in his native city or district.

## **991. FEAR**

**What is fear?**

It is a feeling of anxiety and agitation caused by the presence or nearness of danger, some evil or pain.

## **992. FEAST OF LANTERNS**

**What is the feast of lanterns?**

It is a Chinese festival celebrated on the first moon of each year.



### **993. FEATHERS**

**What are feathers and what is their importance?**

Feathers are parts of the skin of birds. They enable the birds to fly.

Penguins and Ostriches have feathers but they cannot fly. Bats have no feathers but they can fly.

### **994. FEATHER WEIGHT**

**Who is a feather weight?**

He is a person of little weight or size.

### **995. FEELING**

**What is feeling?**

It is one of the senses by which sensations of contact, pressure, temperature, and pain are transmitted through the skin.

### **996. FELONY**

**In law, what is felony?**

It is a major crime such as murder, arson, rape etc.

### **997. FELT**

**How is wool made into felt?**

When wool is rolled and packed instead of being spun it is made into felt.

### **998. FERMAT'S PRINCIPLE**

**What is Fermat's principle of least time?**

The principle is that the path which a ray of light takes from one point to another is such that the time taken is least.

### **999. FERMENTATION**

**What is fermentation?**

It is chemical change brought about in organic substances by living organisms like yeast, bacteria or enzymes.



## **1000. FERRO MAGNETICS**

**What are ferro magnetics?**

These are substances in which magnetic properties are most pronounced. These include iron, nickel and cobalt.

## **1001. FERTILISERS**

**Why do farmers scatter fertilisers in their fields?**

They do so to replace the materials removed by previous crops essential for proper growth of crops.

## **1002. FESTIVALS, MUSLIMS**

**Which are the main festivals of the Muslims?**

These are (1) the Eid after fasting; (2) the Eid after the Haj; (3) the birthday of the Holy Prophet; and (4) the Moharrum.

## **1003. FEUDALISM**

**What was feudalism?**

It was the economic, political and social system in medieval Europe in which land, worked by serfs who were bound to it, was held by vassals in exchange for military and other services given to overlords.

## **1004. FIAT MONEY**

**What is fiat money?**

It is paper currency made legal tender by law, although not backed by gold or silver.

## **1005. FICHTE**

**Who was Johann Gottlieb Fichte?**

Johann Gottlieb Fichte (1762—1814) was a German Philosopher. He wrote 'Critique of Religious Revelation' developing Kantian ethics. He also wrote 'Addresses to the German People' which stirred national feeling against Napoleon's domination.



## **1006. FICTION, LAW**

**In law, what is fiction?**

It is something accepted as fact for the sake of convenience, although not necessarily true.

## **1007. FICTION, LITERATURE**

**In literature, what is fiction?**

It is any literary work portraying imaginary characters and events, as a novel, story or play.

## **1008. FIDEISM**

**What is fideism?**

It is the belief that faith alone is the basis of all knowledge rather than reason.

## **1009. FIDUCIARY**

**Who is a fiduciary?**

He is one holding trust and confidence.

## **1010. FIDUCIARY LOAN**

**What is a fiduciary loan?**

It is a loan granted without any security.

## **1011. FIELD ARTILLERY**

**In military, what is field artillery?**

It is movable artillery capable of accompanying an army into battle.

## **1012. FIELD, PLAY**

**Which is the largest field for any ball game?**

The largest field is that for polo 12.4 acres in area; length 300 yards; breadth 200 yards.

## **1013. FIFTH COLUMNISTS**

**Who are fifth columnists?**

They are persons who act against their own country.



#### **1014. FIJI ISLANDS**

**Where are the Fiji Islands?**

These are a group of 320 islands in the Pacific out of which 105 are inhabited. These are a part of the British Commonwealth.

#### **1015. FIJORD**

**What is a Fjord?**

It is a long narrow inlet of the sea with steep rocky sides. Fjords are common in Norway, Sweden, Scotland, Greenland, and Alaska.

#### **1016. FILIBUSTERING**

**What is filibustering?**

It is the device of the holding up of bills in the legislature by organising succession of interminable opposition speeches.

#### **1017. FILIGREE**

**What is filigree?**

It is ornamental work made with gold or silver wire.

#### **1018. FINS**

**In fish, what are fins?**

These are organs of locomotion, steering, and balance.

#### **1019. FIRDAUSI**

**Who was Firdausi?**

Abul Qasim Mansur Firdausi (940—1020 AD) was a great Persian poet. He wrote the 'Shah Nama.'

#### **1020. FIRE WALKING**

**Where do the people walk on fire?**

The people of the island of Beqa east of Australia walk on fire.



### **1021. FISH, KINDS**

**How many different kinds of fish are in the world?**

There are about 25000 different kinds of fish in the world,

### **1022. FISH, OUT OF WATER**

**Why fish cannot live out of water?**

A fish has no lungs. Instead it has gills and through these gills it breathes air out of water. When out of water, these gills cannot function, and as the fish has no lungs it cannot breathe when out of water. The result is that out of water the fish dies because of suffocation.

### **1024. FISSION, NUCLEAR**

**What is nuclear fission?**

It is a nuclear reaction in which a heavy atomic nucleus is split into two approximately equal parts at the same time emitting neutrons and releasing very large amounts of nuclear energy.

### **1025. FIVE BIG POWERS**

**Which are the five big powers of the UNO?**

These are China; France; U.K.; USA; and USSR.

### **1026. FLAGS, COLOURS**

**What do the black, red, green, white, and yellow coloured flags denote?**

These denote: Black: protest; Red: danger; Green: All clear; White: truce; Yellow: patients suffering from infectious diseases.

### **1027. FLAG DAY**

**What is the flag day?**

It is the day on which money is raised for a cause by the sale of flags.

### **1028. FLAG, HALF MAST**

**When is a flag flown at half-mast**

It is flown at half-mast on the occasion of national mourning.



### **1029. FLAME**

**Why the outer part of a flame is hotter than the inner part?**

The outer part of the flame is the part next to the air from which it gets Oxygen for burning. In the inner part the supply of Oxygen is limited and that is why the outer part is hotter than the inner part.

### **1030. FLEMING, ALEXANDER**

**Who was Alexander Fleming?**

Alexander Fleming (1881—1955) was a Scottish bacteriologist. He was the first to use anti-typhoid vaccines on human beings. He discovered Penicillin. He was awarded Nobel prize in 1945.

### **1031. FLEMING'S LEFT HAND RULE**

**In magnetism what is Fleming's left hand rule?**

The rule is that if the thumb, forefinger and central finger of the left hand was kept mutually perpendicular and the forefinger and central finger indicate respectively the directions of magnetic field and the current in the coil placed in that field, then the thumb indicates the direction in which the coil will move.

### **1032. FLOATING, CONDITIONS**

**What conditions should be fulfilled so that a body may float?**

The conditions to be fulfilled are:

- (1) that the weight of the body should be equal to the weight of the water displaced; and
- (2) that the centre of gravity of the body and that of the liquid should be in the same straight line.

### **1033. FLOOD**

**What is a flood and what are the measures for its control?**

A flood is the inundation of any area which is not normally covered with water through a temporary rise in the surface of a river, a lake or a sea.

A river floods when its channel is inadequate to accommodate the discharge from its catchment.



The measures for flood control are : the provision of a vegetation cover; the creation of storage basins; the creation of barrages to hold up water; and the dredging of channels.

#### **1034. FLORA**

**What is flora?**

It is the sum total of all plants within a given life zone or natural habitat.

#### **1035. FLOWER**

**Which part of a plant is its flower?**

The flower is the part of the plant which houses the reproductive organs.

#### **1036. FLOWER, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest flower in the world?**

It is the 'Rafflesia' which grows in Malaysia. It measures three feet across and weighs about 7 seers.

#### **1037. FLOWER, LARGEST BLOOMS**

**Which is the flower with the largest number of blooms?**

It is the Californian rose which produces as many as 20,000 blooms in a year.

#### **1038. FLUID**

**What is a fluid?**

It is a substance which has weight but no shape.

#### **1039. FLUSHING**

**What is flushing?**

It is cleaning a pipe by sending a large amount of water down it in a sudden rush.

#### **1040. FLUSHING MEADOWS**

**What is 'Flushing Meadows'?**

It is a suburb of New York.



### **1041. FLUVIOGRAPH**

**What is a fluviograph?**

It is an instrument for measuring the rise and fall of a river.

### **1042. FLY**

**How can a fly walk on the ceiling?**

A fly can walk upside down on the ceiling because of the pads on each of its six feet. The hollow pads flatten out against the surface and hold on by suction. A sticky substance on the pads holds the fly to the ceiling.

### **1043. FLY, STROKES**

**How many strokes does a fly make per minute?**

It makes 57000 strokes.

### **1044. FLYING FOX**

**What is a flying fox?**

It is a kind of a bat, and it is so called because its head resembles that of a fox. Most bats look like winged mice, but flying foxes can be as big as little dogs and have a wing span of 6 ft.

### **1045. FLYING SAUCERS**

**What are flying saucers?**

On some occasions certain saucer-like shapes have been seen flying through the atmosphere. In some quarters it has been held that these saucers carry visitors from space. Scientific research points out that either these are hallucinations or are atmospheric phenomena like mirage or mock suns.

### **1046. FLYING SQUIRREL**

**How does the flying squirrel fly?**

It flies long distances among the trees with the help of a membrane stretched between its fore and hind limbs on either side.

### **1047. FOAM**

**What causes foam on sea waves?**

It is caused by the salt in the sea water.



#### **1048. F.O.B.**

**What do 'F.O.B.' stand for?**

These stand for 'free on board'

#### **1049. FOCAL LENGTH**

**What is focal length?**

It is the distance from the optical centre of a lens to the point where the light rays converge.

#### **1050. FOG**

**What is fog, and how can it be cleared?**

A fog is a cloud which has come in contact with the ground. It is usually the result of condensation of water vapour in the air at earth's surface. Fog is made up of water droplets, or some time ice crystals.

Fogs can be cleared by chemical methods such as seeding the fog with dry ice, silver iodide or calcium chloride.

#### **1051. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION(FAO)**

**What is Food and Agriculture Organisation?**

It is a specialised agency of the UNO with headquarters at Rome. Its aims are improving the world's food supply by devising ways of preventing both shortage and surplus of agricultural commodities; controlling pest infestation of stored grains and animal diseases and providing seeds of improved varieties of crops of all kinds.

#### **1052. FOGS, DENSE**

**Why do fogs seem denser than clouds?**

The droplets are smaller in a fog. A large number of small drops absorb more light than a smaller number of larger drops as found in clouds, and because of such absorption the fog seems denser.

#### **1053. FOOD CONSUMPTION**

**Which are the countries with high per capita food consumption rates?**

These are: Ireland 3470 calories; Nezealand 3468; Poland 3350; Uruguay 3220; France 3170; Netherlands 3170; UK 3150 USA 3140.



#### **1054. FOOD, PUREST**

**Of all the foods which is the purest?**

Honey is the purest of all foods.

#### **1055. FOOD, QUANTITY**

**On an average what is the quantity of food consumed by a person in seventy years of life time?**

This amounts to 44000 pints of liquid; 265 cwt of bread; 8000 lbs of meat; 12000 eggs; 50 cwt vegetables—all making 25 lorry loads.

#### **1056. FOOL**

**What is the difference between a wise man and a fool?**

A wise man knows much but feels that he knows little. A fool knows little but feels that he knows much.

#### **1057. FOOL'S GOLD**

**What is fool's gold?**

It is Iron Pyrite, a compound of iron with sulphur. It is a gold coloured mineral often found in coal seams. The colour fooled many persons who thought that it was real gold—hence the name.

#### **1058. FORCE**

**In Physics what is force?**

It is the power which changes or tends to change the state of rest or motion of a body.

#### **1059. FORGING**

**What is forging?**

It is the process of heating a metal and then hammering it into a particular shape on an anvil.

#### **1060. FOSSILS**

**What are fossils?**

These are the remains of plants or animals which have been buried and preserved for a long time in the rocks of the earth's crust.



### **1061. FOUNDRY**

**What is a foundry?**

It is a place where metal is melted and cast.

### **1062. FOUNTAIN PEN**

**How does a fountain pen take ink from an inkpot?**

When the ink tube is pressed it expels all air from it and creates vacuum. When the tube is relaxed the ink comes in to fill the vacuum.

### **1063. FOUNTAIN, TALLEST**

**Which is the tallest fountain in the world?**

It is the 'Elacorte Geyser' 'New York, 600 ft high.

### **1064. FUSE WIRE**

**What is a fuse wire and why is it provided in electric installations?**

A fuse wire is a high resistance wire and when it is put in the series of electric installation under strong current the wire melts thus protecting the main installation from damage.

### **1065. FRACTION**

**In mathematics what is a fraction?**

It is any part of a unit.

### **1066. FRANCE**

**After Russia which is the next largest country in Europe?**

The next largest country is France with an area of 213,000 sq. miles, and a population of 5.1 crore.

### **1067. FREDRICK, THE GREAT**

**Who was Fredrick the Great?**

Fredrick William I known as Fredrick the Great was the king of Prussia from 1740 to 1786.



## **1068. FREEDOM**

**What was Plato's conception of freedom?**

He held:

"Freedom is no matter of laws and constitution; only he is free who realises the divine order within himself; the true standard by which a man can steer himself."

## **1069. FREE PORT**

**What is a free port?**

It is a port where goods may be loaded and unloaded without the payment of customs duty. Hong Kong is a free port.

## **1070. FRENCH COMMUNITY**

**What is the French community?**

It is a political union formed in 1958 comprising France, its overseas departments and territories, and six independent states namely : Central African Republic, Chad; Congo (Brazzaville); Gabon; Malagasy Republic; and Senegal.

## **1071. FRENCH REVOLUTION**

**What was the French Revolution?**

It was the revolt of the people of France against the nobility the clergy, and the royalty. As a result of the revolution, monarchy was overthrown in France. The revolution began in 1789 and ended in 1799 with Napoleon's rise to power.

## **1072. FREQUENCY**

**In statistics what is frequency?**

It is the number of times an event, value or characteristic occurs in a given period.

## **1073. FRESH AIR**

**What is the amount of fresh air required by a person every hour.**

The quantity required is 2000 cubic feet.

## **1074. FRESH BREEZE**

**What is the speed in the case of fresh breeze?**

It is 19 to 24 miles an hour.



### **1075. FRESNEL MIRRORS**

**In Optics what are fresnel mirrors?**

These are two plain mirrors linked together at an angle a little less than 180 degrees so that a beam of light falling on them is reflected by these mirrors in slightly different directions, thus producing interference fringes in the area where this reflected light overlaps.

### **1076. FREUD**

**Who was Sigmund Freud?**

Sigmund Freud (1856—1939) was an Austrian physician, and neurologist. He was the founder of psychoanalysis.

### **1077. FRICTION**

**What is friction?**

It is the resistance offered to the movement of one material against another.

### **1078. FROG IN THE THROAT**

**What is frog in the throat?**

It is hoarseness due to throat irritation.

### **1079. FROG MAN**

**Who is a frog man?**

He is a person trained for underwater exploration.

### **1080. FRONDESCENCE**

**What is frondescence?**

It is the process of putting forth leaves in the case of trees.

### **1081. FRONT BENCHER**

**In a legislature who is a front bencher?**

He is the leader of a party who occupies a seat in the first row.



## **1082. FRUIT**

**What is the nature of fruit?**

These are the packages in which the plants provide food and bear their seeds.

## **1083. FUJIYAMA**

**What is Fujiyama?**

It is the highest mountain of Japan (12395 ft) 60 miles south west of Tokyo. It is a dormant volcano famous for its beautiful symmetry. It is the national symbol for Japan.

## **1084. FULCRUM**

**In the case of a lever what is the fulcrum?**

It is the support on which a lever turns in raising or moving something.

## **1085. FULL FLEDGED**

**When is a bird said to be full fledged?**

When it has a complete set of feathers.

## **1086. FULL MOON**

**What is full moon?**

It is the phase of the moon when its entire illuminated hemisphere is seen as a full disk.

## **1087. FUNCTIONALISM**

**What is functionalism?**

It is the theory or practice emphasising the necessity of adapting the structure or design of anything to its function.

## **1088. FUND**

**What is a fund?**

It is money available for use for a particular purpose.



## **1089. FUNDAMENTALISM**

**What is fundamentalism?**

It is the belief that everything in a religious book such as the Bible or the Quran should be interpreted literally and regarded as fundamental to the faith.

## **1090. FUNERAL, LARGEST**

**In recorded history which has been the largest funeral?**

The largest funeral was that of President Nasser of Egypt who died in 1970 and whose funeral was attended by 40 lakh persons.

## **1091. FUNGUS**

**What are fungus?**

These are plants which lack chlorophyll.

## **1092. FUR**

**Which animals provide furs?**

The most valuable furs are provided by the ermine, sable, fox and seal.

## **1093. FUSION BOMB**

**On what principle does a fusion bomb work?**

It works on the principle that given a sufficiently high temperature the nuclei of an element will fuse with an enormous release of energy.

## **1094. FUTURE**

**What is the trouble with the future?**

The trouble with the future is that it usually arrives before we are ready for it.

## **1095. FUTURISM**

**What is futurism?**

In art it is a form in which the picture depicts not only a scene but also indicates the emotions and ideas of the artist together with those of the person portrayed.



## **1096. FYI**

**What does 'FYI' stand for?**

It stands for 'For Your Information.'

## **G**

## **1097. GAGARIN, YURI**

**Who was Yuri Gagarin?**

Yuri Gagarin (1934—68) was a Soviet cosmonaut. He was the first man to orbit the earth in space flight.

## **1098. GALAXY**

**What is a galaxy, and what is their number in the universe?**

A galaxy is a collection or system of stars and other heavenly bodies.

The solar system is a part of the galaxy known as the Milky Way.

On an average there are one lakh million stars in a galaxy.

There are millions of galaxies in the universe.

## **1099. GALAXY, REMOTEST**

**Which is the remotest galaxy visible to the naked eye?**

The remotest galaxy is the 'Andromeda galaxy', 2,200,000 light years from the earth.

## **1100. GALE**

**Why does a gale break big trees, but leaves bushes standing?**

A big tree is inelastic, and has to face the full fury of the gale. If the gale is strong the tree would break. On the other hand the bushes being elastic bend with the result that when the gale blows they lie low, and when the storm is over they regain their normal position.



### **1101. GALILEO**

**Who was Galilei Galileo?**

Galilei Galileo (1564—1642) was an Italian scientist. He invented the thermometer. He made the first telescope. He was the first to question the doctrine that the earth was the centre of the universe.

### **1102. GALVANI**

**Who was Luigi Galvani?**

Luigi Galvani (1737—1798) was a scientist. He hung a dead frog over an iron railing by a copper hook through the frog's back. The creature's body was convulsed by lively twitchings. Galvani thereby concluded that the body was a kind of naturally charged Leyden jar discharging electricity.

### **1103. GALVANISED IRON**

**What is galvanised iron?**

It is iron coated with zinc.

### **1104. GANDHI, MOHANDAS**

**Who was Mohandas Gandhi?**

Mohan Das Gandhi (1869—1948) was a great Hindu leader of India. He preached non-violence and led India's struggle for independence against the British.

### **1105. GANGES**

**Where is the Ganges?**

It is a river of India held sacred by the Hindus. It rises in the Himalayas and flows through India and Bangla Desh. It is 1600 miles long. Allahabad and Benaras are main cities on the river.

### **1106. GARAGE, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest garage in the world?**

The largest garage in the world is the Austin Motor Works Garage at Longbridge, England with the capacity to garage 3300 cars.



### **1107. GARDEN CITY**

**What is a garden city?**

It is a town carefully designed and built to maintain something of an open rural character with a relatively low housing density open spaces, and trees facilities for recreation and social life and planned industrial development.

### **1108. GAS**

**Out of the known elements, how many are gases at the ordinary temperature?**

These are Hydrogen; Helium; Neon; Nitrogen; Oxygen; Flourine; Argon; Chlorine; Krypton; Xenon; and Niton.

### **1109. GAS, COMMON**

**Which is the most common gas in the universe and on the earth?**

The most common gas in the Universe is Hydrogen, and the most common gas on the earth is Nitrogen.

### **1110 GASES/LIGHTEST, HEAVIEST**

**Among the gases which is the lightest and which is the heaviest?**

The lightest is Hydrogen : and the heaviest is Rondon 111 times as heavy as Hydrogen.

### **1111. GAS TURBINE**

**Which is the largest gas turbine in the world?**

The largest gas turbine in the world is the Krasnodar Thermal Power station, USSR with a capacity of 1 lakh KW.

### **1112. GASOMETER**

**What is a gasometer?**

It is a container for holding and measuring gas.

### **1113. GASTRONOMY**

**What is gastronomy?**

It is the science of eating.



#### **1114. GAUL**

**Which area in ancient Europe was called Gaul?**

The area now included in France and Belgium was at one time called Gaul.

#### **1115. GEMOLOGY**

**What is gemology?**

It is the science of gems and gemstones.

#### **1116. GENEALOGY**

**What is genealogy?**

It is the history of descent of a person or family.

#### **1117. GENERATOR**

**In electricity what is a generator?**

It is a machine for converting mechanical energy into electrical energy.

#### **1118. GENETICS**

**What is Genetics?**

It is a branch of Biology which deals with heredity and variation in similar or related animals and plants.

#### **1119. GENEVA CONVENTION**

**What is the Geneva Convention?**

It is an international agreement that was signed at Geneva in 1864 establishing a code for the care and treatment in wartime of the sick, wounded, dead, and prisoners of war.

#### **1120. GENOCIDE**

**What is genocide?**

It is an attempted killing of a race by planned killings.

#### **1121. GENTLEMEN AT ARMS**

**In England who are the gentlemen-at-arms?**

It is a group of forty men of rank who accompany the sovereign as a military guard on important occasions.



## **1122. GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT)**

**What is the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade?**

It is an organisation set up in 1947 which aims at establishing a uniform tariff policy, avoiding discrimination in trade and discouraging unfair competition among nations. Its headquarters are in Geneva.

## **1123. GENEVA**

**Where is Geneva?**

It is the principal city of French speaking Switzerland. It was the headquarter of the League of Nations.

## **1124. GENIUS**

**How did Edison define Genius?**

He defined genius as one percent inspiration, and ninety nine percent perspiration.

## **1125. GEODESY**

**What is Geodesy and according to it what are the dimensions of the earth?**

Geodesy is the science which studies, determines, and measures the shape and dimensions of the earth.

The dimensions are:

- (1) Diameter at the equator: 7926.42 miles;
- (2) Circumference at the equator: 24,902.44 miles.

## **1126. GEODIMETER**

**What is Geodimeter?**

It is an instrument which measures distances between two points by measuring the time interval between a light signal sent from one station and its return via a reflector from the other.

## **1127. GEOGRAPHY**

**What is Geography?**

It is the science dealing with surface configuration of the earth in relation to man.



## 1128. GEOLOGY

**What is Geology, and what are its various branches?**

Geology is the study of the earth, its origin, structure, composition, history, and nature of the processes which have given rise to its present state.

The branches are:

- (1) Crystallography concerned with the materials and composition of the earth;
- (2) Structural Geology concerned with the structure of the earth;
- (3) Stratigraphy concerned with the history of the earth;
- (4) Palaeontology concerned with the study of ancient life;
- (5) Physical Geology concerned with the study of the physical processes affecting the earth.

## 1129. GEOMETRY

**What is Geometry?**

It is the science dealing with measurement and properties of space.

## 1130. GEOMORPHOLOGY

**What is Geomorphology?**

It is the science which studies the origin and development of land forms.

## 1131. GEORGE V

**Which phrase was coined to show that George V of England was very much under the influence of his wife Mary?**

The phrase was "George the fifth, Mary the four fifth".

## 1132. GERMS

**What are Germs?**

These are tiny one celled organisms which may be plants or animals. The animal forms are called 'protozoa', and the plant forms are called 'bacteria'. Most diseases are caused by germs.

## 1133. GERMAN METAL

**What is German metal?**

It is an alloy containing three parts of copper, 2 parts of zinc, and 1 part of nickel.



### **1134. GESTAPO**

**What was the Gestapo?**

It was the secret German police under the Nazis.

### **1135. GEYSERS**

**What are geysers. Name some important geysers?**

Geysers are fountains of hot water discharged explosively from the earth's interior by superheated steam. The geysers are found in areas where volcanic activity is coming to an end. These are mostly found in Yellowstone National Park, USA, in Iceland in Newzealand. The largest geyser in the world is 'Old Faithful' Wyoming, USA, which erupts every hours.

### **1136. GHALIB**

**Who was Asadullah Khan Ghalib?**

Asadullah Khan Ghalib 1797—1869 was the greatest Urdu poet during the 19th century.

### **1137. GHETTO**

**What was ghetto?**

It was a locality in a city to which the Jews were restricted.

### **1138. GHOST WORD**

**What is a ghost word?**

It is a word created through misreading of the manuscript.

### **1139. GIBBON**

**Who was Edward Gibbon?**

Edward Gibbon (1737—1794) was an English historian. He wrote 'The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire'.

### **1140. GIBRALTAR**

**Where is the Gibraltar?**

It is a strategic tongue of land at the southern tip of Spain overlooking the Mediterranean.



### **1141. GIFT OF THE NILE**

**Which land is the gift of the Nile?**

Egypt is the gift of the Nile.

### **1142. GIGGLING**

**What is giggling?**

It is laughter asserting itself inspite of efforts made to suppress it.

### **1143. GILLS**

**In fish what are gills?**

These are organs of breathing.

### **1144. GILT EDGED SECURITY**

**What is gilt edged security?**

It is a security backed by Government guarantee.

### **1145. GIRL GUIDE**

**What is the Girl Guide?**

It is a youth organisation founded by Lord Baden Powell and his sister Agnes to give the girls a training corresponding to that of boy scouts in the case of boys.

### **1146. GLACIERS**

**What are glaciers?**

When snow falls on high mountains it becomes hard and is changed into ice. This huge mass of ice begins to slide along the slope of the mountains. These slow moving rivers of ice are called glaciers.

### **1147. GLASS**

**What is glass, and how is it made?**

It is a solidified fluid and is made by melting together finely ground sand, soda, and lime.



## **1148. GLAZING**

**What is glazing?**

It is giving a hard, glossy finish or coating.

## **1149. GLEN**

**What is a glen?**

It is a narrow secluded valley.

## **1150. GLITTER ICE**

**What is glitter ice?**

It is a glaze of ice formed by a quickly freezing rain.

## **1151. GLOBE TROTTER**

**Who is a globe trotter?**

He is a person who travels widely for sightseeing.

## **1152. GLOSS**

**What is gloss?**

It is a running commentary amplifying and explaining a difficult

## **1153. GLOW WORM**

**Why does a glow worm glow?**

It is only the female glow worm that is equipped with the glowing mechanism. When the glow worm glows it is a sex call to attract the male.

On the lower side of her abdomen the female glow worm has a lantern. The lantern has a transparent layer of skin like the lens of a lamp. Behind this is an oily layer of tissue which produces the light by a chemical process.

## **1154. GOD**

**How did Aristotle define God?**

He defined God as the 'Unmoved Mover'.



### **1155. GOETHE**

**Who was Johann Wolfgang von Goethe?**

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749—1882) is regarded as the greatest German poet. His well known work is 'Faust'.

### **1156. GOLDEN HANDSHAKE**

**In a business concern what is the golden handshake?**

It is the formal dismissal with a substantial gift of an unwanted Director.

### **1157. GOLDEN RULE**

**What is the golden rule?**

It is the precept that one should behave towards others as he would want others to behave toward him.

### **1158. GOLD PRODUCING COUNTRIES**

**Which are the gold producing countries in the world?**

These are South Africa; USSR; Canada; and USA.

### **1159. GOLD STANDARD**

**What is gold standard?**

It is a system of currency by which paper money is exchangeable for a fixed amount of gold.

### **1160. GOLF COURSE, HIGHEST**

**Which is the highest golf course in the world?**

The Tuctu Gold Course at Morococha, Peru, 14335 ft above sea level is the highest golf course in the world.

### **1161. GOLGOTHA**

**What is Golgotha?**

It is the place outside the walls of the city of Jerusalem where Jesus Christ was crucified.



## **1162. GONDWANALAND**

**What was Gondwanaland?**

It was a continental mass when Asia, Africa and Australia formed one land mass.

## **1163. GOOD FRIDAY**

**Among the Christians what does Good Friday commemorate?**

It commemorates the crucifixion of Christ.

## **1164. GOVERNMENT**

**What is government?**

It is an organisation among a people for the exercise of authority.

## **1165. GRAMMAR**

**What does grammar teach?**

It teaches the proper use of words, and their correct combination into sentences.

## **1166. GRAND CANAL**

**Which is the Grand Canal?**

It is the canal in China extending from Tientsin to Hangchow 1000 miles long.

## **1167. GRAND CANYON**

**What is the Grand Canyon?**

It is the canyon on the Colorado river in USA. It is a multi-coloured chasm 217 miles long, 8 miles wide and 5000 ft deep. It is referred to as 'the most sublime spectacle in the world'.

## **1168. GRAPH**

**What does a graph show?**

It shows mathematical information in the form of a diagram.



## **1169. GRAPHOLOGY**

**What is graphology?**

It is the assessment of personality characteristics by the study of handwriting.

## **1170. GRASP**

**Why we cannot grasp things tightly when we first wake up?**

During sleep parts of the brain are at rest and are not supplied with blood. Not until we wholly awake do the centres of will in the brain get into action and till then because the brain is not fully working, our voluntary acts are feeble and we cannot grasp things tightly.

## **1171. GRAVITATION, LAW OF**

**What is Newton's law of gravitation, and what is the effect of the law?**

The law is that every particle of matter attracts every other particle with a force which varies according to the mass of the particles and the distance between them. Doubling the mass doubles the attraction. Doubling the distance would decrease the attraction four times. It is because of this law that the attraction of the sun keeps the planets in their orbit.

## **1172. GRAVITY HILL**

**In space what is the Gravity Hill?**

It is the point where the moon's gravity exceeds that of the earth.

## **1173. GREASY SURFACE**

**Why does water stand in droplets on a greasy surface?**

That is because of surface tension, the drops contract and assume a spherical shape.

## **1174. GREAT LAKES**

**Which are the Great Lakes?**

These are the Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario lakes between Canada and USA connected by canals.



### **1175. GREEK FIRE**

**What is the fire that would burn under water?**

It is the Greek fire which consists of sulphur, naptha, asphalt, and nitre.

### **1176. GREEN**

**Why is much of nature green?**

The distribution of living things in the world depends on the distribution of the kinds of food they live upon. Of all the possible foods for life, by far the most widely distributed is Carbon Dioxide which occurs in the air. Thus the most widely distributed kind of life is that which is capable of feeding on carbon dioxide, and the only kind of life which can do this is that which produces the green substance called chlorophyll. That is the reason why most of the nature is green.

### **1177. GREEN BELT**

**What is a green belt?**

It is a deliberately maintained zone of open country round a town.

### **1178. GREEN GOLD**

**What is green gold?**

It is an alloy of gold, silver, and cadmium.

### **1179. GREEN REVOLUTION**

**What is green revolution?**

It is the establishment of new crop records through the adoption of new varieties of seed.

### **1180. GRESHAM'S LAW**

**In Economics what is Gresham's law?**

It is the concept that bad money drives out good money.

### **1181. GRID**

**What is a grid?**

It is a system of interconnecting large power stations by means of high voltage transmission lines.



## **1182. GRIEF**

**What does grief result from?**

It results from the unalterable deprivation of an accustomed or expected source of gratification.

## **1183. GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT**

**What is Gross National Product?**

It is the total value of all the goods and services produced in the country.

## **1184. GROSS TONNAGE**

**In the case of a ship what is the gross tonnage?**

It is the weight of water that it displaces.

## **1185. GUERICKE**

**Who was Otto Von Guericke?**

Otto Von Guericke (1602—1686) was a German scientist who invented the first electric machine.

## **1186. GUIDED MISSILE**

**What is a guided missile?**

It is an unmanned vehicle whose flight path is capable of being altered by mean of a mechanism within the vehicle.

## **1187. GUILD**

**What is a guild?**

It is an association of persons in common employment or cause.

## **1188. GULF STREAM**

**What is the gulf stream?**

It is the ocean current of the Northern Atlantic Ocean.

## **1189. GUN METAL**

**What is gun metal?**

It is an alloy containing 9 parts copper and 1 parts tin.



## **1190. GYNAECOLOGY**

**What is Gynaecology?**

It is the branch of medical science that studies ailments confined to women.

## **1191. GYROSCOPE**

**What is a Gyroscope?**

It is an instrument which would tell a pilot as to how much the aeroplane is tilting.

## **H**

## **1192. HABEAS CORPUS**

**In law, what is Habeas Corpus'?**

It is a writ issued by the High Court directed to one who has detained a person ordering him to produce that person before the Court.

## **1193. HABIT**

**What is habit?**

It is a pattern of action that is acquired and has become so automatic that it is difficult to break.

## **1194. HABITAT**

**In the case of a plant or animal what is habitat?**

It is an area in which the requirements of a specified plant or animal are met.

## **1195. HADRAIN WALL**

**What is the Hadrain Wall?**

It is a stone wall across Northern England from Solway Firth to the Tyne built in 122—128 AD by Hadrain to protect Roman Britain from northern tribes. It is over 73 miles long.

## **1196. HAGGARD, SIR RIDER**

**Name some of the novels of Sir Rider Haggard?**

His well known novels are 'She' and 'Ayesha'.



### **1197. HAIL**

**What causes hail?**

When the rain falls, sometimes the rain drops come across a very cold belt of air and are frozen. These frozen rain drops make hail.

### **1198. HAIR, LONGEST**

**What is the record for the longest human hair?**

The record is held by Swami Pandarasannadhi the head of the Thiruvadu monastery whose hair in 1949 were 26 feet long.

### **1199. HAIR, NUMBER**

**What is the average number of hair on the head of an ordinary person?**

The number is about half a million.

### **1200. HAIR-OLD AGE**

**Why do the hair grow white in old age?**

The colour of the hair depends on colouring matter. At the root of the hair are cells which produce the pigment for colouring. In old age the pigment gets exhausted and in the absence of colouring matter the hair turn white.

### **1201. HALF LIFE PERIOD**

**In the case of radio active substances what is the half life period?**

It is the time in which the radio active substance would lose half its mass. In the case of Uranium this period is 600 crore years.

### **1202. HALI**

**On what poem does Altaf Hussain Hali's fame rest?**

Altaf Hussain Hali's (1837—1914) fame rests on his poem 'Mussadis-i-Hali'.

### **1203. HALL MARK**

**What is hall mark?**

It is a mark or symbol of genuineness or high quality.



#### **1204. HALL OF FAME**

**What is the Hall of 'Fame'?**

It is a memorial in New York containing busts and tablets of celebrated Americans.

#### **1205. HALLUCINATION**

**What is hallucination?**

It is thinking that one sees or hears things which are not in fact real.

#### **1206. HAMMER THROW**

**What is the record for the longest hammer throw?**

In 1965, G. Zsivotsky of Hungary established a record of 241 ft. 11½ inches.

#### **1207. HAMMURABI**

**Who was Hammurabi?**

He was the king of Babylon who dominated the Sumerian and Akkadian city states. He ruled for 43 years and died in about 2100 BC. He was a great law giver, and he left a code of law.

#### **1208. HANDPUMP**

**Why is water from a handpump warm in winter and cool in summer?**

In winter temperature outside is low and the unexposed water underground is at a higher temperature. In summer the outside temperature is higher than the temperature underground. Hence water underground remains warm in winter and cool in summer.

#### **1209. HANGAR, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest hangar in the world?**

It is the Goodyear Airship Hangar at Akron, Ohio 1175 ft long, 325 ft wide and 200 ft high.

#### **1210. HANGING GARDENS**

**What were the Hanging Gardens of Babylon?**

These gardens rose in a series of terraces in Babylonia. These were built by Nebuchadnezzar to gratify his queen Amytes who was



weary of the flat plains of Babylon and longed for the hills of Media her native land.

#### **1211. HANSEATIC LEAGUE**

**What was the Hanseatic League?**

It was a confederation of North German towns established about 1241 for purposes of mutual protection in carrying on international commerce.

#### **1212. HARD CURRENCY**

**What is hard currency?**

It is a currency which enjoys a relatively stable value as international exchange and tends to maintain its value.

#### **1213. HARD WATER**

**What is hard water?**

It is water which does not form a lather with soap because of the presence of calcium, magnesium and iron compounds.

#### **1214. HARUN-UR-RASHID**

**Who was Harun-ur-Rashid?**

He was the fifth Abbasid Caliph and ruled from 786 to 809. Under him the Muslim power rose to great heights of splendour. He was the hero of the Arabian Nights.

#### **1215. HAT TRICK**

**In Cricket what is hat trick?**

It is the bagging of three wickets in three successive balls.

#### **1216. HAUSA**

**Who are Hausa?**

They are a negro people of northern Nigeria.

#### **1217. HAVANNA**

**Of which country is Havanna the capital?**

It is the capital of Cuba.



## **1218. HAY**

**Why can cows, but not men digest hay?**

That is because cellulose the main constituent of hay is resistant to the juices of man but not of cows.

## **1219. HAZE**

**What is Haze?**

It is the obscurity of the lower layers of the atmosphere because of the condensation of water droplets around dust.

## **1220. HEADACHE**

**What causes headache?**

The causes of headache are stomach trouble; excessive brain work; and eye strain.

## **1221. HEADACHE, CROWDED ROOM**

**Why do we get headache in a crowded and badly ventilated room?**

That is because of the excess of carbon dioxide in such a room.

## **1222. HEALTH**

**How is health defined?**

According to the Constitution of the World Health Organisation 'health' is a state of complete, physical, mental and social well being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

## **1223. HEART**

**What is the weight of the human heart, and what work does it do?**

The average weight of the heart is 10 oz. During 24 hours the heart dispatches into the circulatory system 20,000 pints of blood. In 70 years the heart performs 300 crore pumping operations.

## **1224. HEART ATTACK**

**What is the medical name for heart attack and how does it occur?**

The medical name for heart attack is coronary thrombosis. It occurs when the arteries leading to the heart are blocked by contraction. In that case the heart does not receive enough blood to function and consequently fails.



## **1225. HEART BEATS**

**In a human heart what are heart beats?**

The human heart pumps out blood into the veins and this incessant pumping out of blood is known as heart beats. In one year the average heart beats 42 crore times.

## **1226. HEAT**

**What is heat?**

Formerly it was thought that heat was a substance. The modern view is that heat is a form of energy, and that it is the combined kinetic and potential energy of the atoms of which a body is composed.

## **1227. HEAT, EFFECTS OF**

**What are the effects of heat?**

The effects of heat are rise in temperature; change of state; change in volume; chemical action; and change in physical properties.

## **1228. HEAT WAVE**

**What is heat wave?**

It is a spell of very hot weather.

## **1229. HEAVY INDUSTRY**

**What is heavy industry?**

It is the manufacture of articles of considerable bulk using steel, e.g. bridges, ships, locomotives, and heavy machines.

## **1230. HEAVIEST MAN**

**What is the record for the heaviest man?**

The record is held by Robert Earl Hughes, Illinois, USA whose weight was 1069 lbs, and whose chest was 124 inches. He died in 1958 at the age of 32.

## **1231. HEAVIEST SPORTSMAN**

**Who has been the heaviest sportsman? ..**

The record is held by the wrestler William J. Cobb of Georgia (USSR) who weighed 802 lbs in 1962.



### **1232. HEDONISM**

**What is the philosophy of Hedonism?**

The philosophy is that all activities of men are directed towards the acquisition of pleasure, and that men not only in fact seek pleasure, but that they ought to do so, since pleasure alone is good.

### **1233. HEGEL**

**Who was Hegel and what is his philosophy?**

Hegel (1770—1831) was a German philosopher. He was an exponent of the school of idealism. He held that the world of objects is not only related to an intelligence, but can be nothing more than the manifestation or revelation of that intelligence. The material world cannot exist of itself. Matter is but the necessary counterpart of spirit, and in it spirit reveals and realises itself. God Himself is just the self development of the Absolute. The universal principle is the 'Idea'. Being and the idea are identical.

### **1234. HEIGHTS OF ABRAHAM**

**Where are the heights of Abraham?**

These are in Canada.

### **1235. HELICOPTER**

**What is an helicopter?**

It is an aircraft which obtains its lift from blades rotating above the fuselage in wind mill fashion.

### **1236. HELIOTHERAPY**

**What is Heliotherapy?**

It is the cure of diseases by sun baths.

### **1237. HELLESPONT**

**What is Hellespont?**

It is the ancient name for the strait of Dardanelles.

### **1238. HELM**

**In a ship what is the helm?**

It is the steering apparatus.



### **1239. HELSINKI**

**Where is Helsinki?**

It is the capital of Finland.

### **1240. HEREDITY**

**What is heredity?**

It is resemblance based on descent; the occurrence in living organisms of qualities expressed or hidden that are derived from ancestors.

### **1241. HERODOTUS**

**Who was Herodotus?**

Herodotus (485—425 BC) was a Greek historian. He is called the 'Father of History'.

### **1242. HERTZ**

**Who was Heinrich Rudolf Hertz?**

Heinrich Rudolf Hertz (1857—1894) was the forerunner of Marconi in wireless telegraphy. He produced electromagnetic waves and showed that these could be reflected, refracted, and polarised.

### **1243. HETERODOXY**

**What is heterodoxy?**

It is variance with generally accepted opinions or beliefs.

### **1244. HIBERNATION**

**What is hibernation?**

It is the process whereunder some animals sleep throughout the winter months.

### **1245. HICCOUGH**

**What is hiccough?**

A hiccough is a catching of one's breath due to a sudden contraction of the diaphragm the muscle separating the chest from the



stomach. It is a repeated but somewhat ineffective and half hearted attempt at vomiting. It is a nerve reflex the result of shock or indigestion.

#### **1246. HIFI**

**What do 'Hi FI' stand for?**

These stand for high fidelity and refer to gramophones, tape recorders and similar instruments which faithfully reproduce sounds.

#### **1247. HIGH HILLS**

**Why it snows on the high hills when it rains lower down?**

On the high hills the temperature is below the freezing point and the water vapour changes into snow. Lower down the temperature is above the freezing point and here the water vapour is condensed and falls as rain.

#### **1248. HIGH JUMP**

**What is the record for high jump?**

In 1963, V.N. Brumel of USSR established the record of 7 ft 5½ inches.

#### **1249. HIGH SEAS**

**What are high seas?**

These are parts of the oceans free for all nations.

#### **1250. HIGHWAYMAN**

**Who is a highwayman?**

He is a robber on a public way.

#### **1251. HIJRI CALENDAR, MONTHS**

**What are the various months according to the Muslim Hijri?**

These are: Moharram; Safar; Rabiul Awal; Rabi-us-Sani; Jamadiul Awal; Jamadiul Sani, Rajab; Shaban; Ramzan; Shawal; Thad; and Zul Haj.



### **1252. HIJRI ERA**

**From which date does the Hijri era of the Muslim calendar start?**

It starts from 26th July 622.

### **1253. HIMALAYAS**

**What are the Himalayas?**

The Himalayas are the loftiest mountain range in the world. It extends for 1500 miles from the Indus to the Brahmaputra. The highest point is Mt. Everest 29028 ft, which is the highest elevation on the earth.

### **1254. HINDUKUSH**

**What are the Hindukush?**

These are a mountain range which run through Pakistan and Afghanistan. The highest peak is Tirich Mir 25426 ft in Pakistan.

### **1255. HIPPOCRATIC OATH**

**What is the Hippocratic Oath?**

It is the oath which is taken by medical graduates. It is based on the teachings of the Greek physician Hippocrates.

The oath is:

"I swear I will carry out this oath. I will use treatment to help the sick according to my ability and judgment never with a view to wrong doing, to none will I give a deadly drug, even when asked to do so. Into whatsoever houses I enter, I will enter to help the sick. Whatsoever shall I see or hear in the course of my profession if it should not be published I will never divulge it."

### **1256. HITLER, ADOLF**

**Who was Adolf Hitler?**

Adolf Hitler (1889—1945) was the German Nazi dictator. He lost world war II and committed suicide.

### **1257. HITTITES**

**Who were the Hittites?**

They were the people who inhabited Asia Minor in the ancient period. Excavations in Asia Minor have shown that these people



had attained a high level of civilisation around 1400 BC. They were the rivals of ancient Egyptians, and disputed with the Pharaohs the mastery of the Middle East. They were the first to smelt iron.

#### **1258. HOARSE**

**Why do we get hoarse when we have a cold?**

The voice is produced by a little box in the throat called the larynx in which are vocal chords whose vibrations produce different sounds. When we get cold these chords swell up making the voice hoarse.

#### **1259. HOBBS**

**Who was Hobbes and what is his political philosophy?**

Hobbes (1588—1679) was an English philosopher. His fame rests on his work 'The Leviathan' in which he has advocated absolute monarchy as the basis for strong and stable government.

#### **1260. HOCKEY FIELD**

**What is the official length of a hockey field?**

The official length of a hockey field is 100 yards.

#### **1261. HOLY ALLIANCE**

**What was the Holy Alliance?**

It was a league formed by Russia, Austria and Prussia in 1815 designed to regulate the affairs of Europe after the fall of Napoleon by the principles of Christian charity.

#### **1262. Holy Roman Empire**

**What was the Holy Roman empire?**

It was the title by which the German empire was known from 962 to 1806.

#### **1263. HOMEOPATHY**

**On what belief is the system of homoeopathy based?**

It is based on the belief that 'like cures like'.



#### **1264. HOMER**

**Who was Homer, and which of his works are famous?**

He was a Greek poet who flourished in the 9th century BC. His famous works are:

- (1) The Iliad describing the siege of Troy; and...
- (2) The Odyssey describing the wanderings of Ulysses.

#### **1265. HOMONYMS**

**What are Homonyms?**

These are words of opposite meaning such as black and white.

#### **1266. HONEY**

**How is honey formed?**

It is formed by bees from the nectar of flowers, the sucrose in the nectar being converted into a mixture of simple sugars, glucose, and fructose.

#### **1267. HONG KONG**

**Where is Hong Kong?**

It is in South East Asia connected to South China. It is a free port.

#### **1268. HONOLULU**

**Where is Honolulu?**

It is the capital and chief port of Hawaii, USA.

#### **1269. HOOVER DAM**

**Where is the Hoover dam?**

It is on the Colorado river in USA. It was completed in 1936 and is one of the largest dams in the world.

#### **1270. HORACE**

**Who was Horace?**

Quintus Horatius Flaccus Horace (65—8 BC) was a great Roman lyric poet and satirist.



### **1271. HORIZON**

**What is the horizon?**

It is the boundary of the earth's surface as viewed from one point where earth and sky appear to meet.

### **1272. HORMONES**

**What are the hormones?**

These are chemical substances produced by certain organs which enter the blood stream and act on other organs different from those in which they are produced. Hormones control growth, maintain health and help the nervous system.

### **1273. HORMUZ, STRAIT OF**

**Where is the strait of Hormuz?**

It is off South Iran between Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman.

### **1274. HORN, CAPE**

**Where is the Cape of Horn?**

It is in South Chile the most southern point of South America.

### **1275. HOROLOGY**

**What is Horology?**

It is the science of clocks and watches,

### **1276. HORSE, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest kind of horse?**

It is the Shire horse attaining a weight of 2000 lbs.

### **1277. HORSE POWER**

**What is horse power equivalent to?**

It is equivalent to the raising of 150 lbs of coal through a height of 220 ft in one minute.



## **1278. HORTICULTURE**

**What is horticulture ?**

It is the scientific cultivation of fruit, vegetables, and flowers.

## **1279. HOSPITAL, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest hospital in the world ?**

It is the 'Danderyd Hospital', Stockholm, Sweden with 12000 beds.

## **1280. HOTEL, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest hotel in the world ?**

The largest hotel in the world is the 'Hotel Rossiya' in Moscow with 33200 rooms spread over three buildings.

The largest hotel on the basis of volume is Waldorf Astoria Parl Avenue, New York, 81,337 sq. ft.

## **1281. HOTEL, TALLEST**

**Which is the tallest hotel in the world ?**

The tallest hotel in the world is Ukraine Hotel, Moscow 650 ft. high.

## **1282. HOT WATER**

**Why does hot water clean things better than cold water ?**

Things become dirty because of fat or oil. Such fat is not dissolved in cold water. In hot water the fat melts and is carried away by water.

## **1283. HUGO, VICTOR**

**Which are the well known novels of Victor Hugo ?**

His well known novels are 'Les Miserables', and 'Notre Dame'.

## **1284. HUIEN TSIANG**

**Who was Huien Tsiang ?**

Huien Tsiang (605—664) was a Chinese traveller. He visited Pakistan and India in the seventh century and wrote an account of his travels.



### **1285. HUMAN ACHIEVEMENT**

**Which is the greatest human achievement of the 20th century?**

It was the landing of man on the moon in July 1969.

### **1286. HUMAN BODY, COMPOSITION**

**What is the composition of the body of an ordinary adult?**

A human body weighing about 9 stones consists of:

- 1694 grams of Hydrogen;
- 1626 grams of Nitrogen;
- 3682 grams of Oxygen;
- 40694 grams of water; and
- 11357 grams of carbon

### **1287. HUMANISM?**

**What is Humanism?**

It is the concept that man is the measure of all things and that with proper application of intellect all problems can be solved.

### **1288. HUMIDITY**

**What is humidity?**

It is the state of the atmosphere with respect to the water vapour it contains.

### **1289. HUMOUR**

**What is humour?**

It is the faculty of saying or perceiving what excites amusement.

### **1290. HUMUS**

**What is humus?**

It is the soil formed by the decay of living things.

### **1291. HUNS**

**Who were the hunns ?**

These were a war like people of Asia led by Attila who invaded Europe in the 4th-5th centuries.



### **1292. HUNDRED DAYS**

**Which period in history is known as the Hundred Days?**

It is the period between Napoleon's escape from Elba and his defeat at Waterloo March 20 to June 28, 1815.

### **1293. HUNDRED YEARS WAR**

**What was the Hundred Years War?**

It was the series of wars between England and France from 1338 to 1453 AD.

### **1294. HUNGER**

**What is hunger?**

It is appetite for food.

### **1295. HWANG HO**

**What is the Hwang Ho?**

It is a river of China also known as the Yellow river. It rises in Tibet and flows through China. It is 2600 miles long.

### **1296. HYDE PARK**

**Where is Hyde Park?**

It is a pleasure spot and a venue for public meetings in London.

### **1297. HYDROGENATION PLANT**

**What is a hydrogenation plant?**

It is a chemical plant in which coal and coal products are transformed into petrol and heavy oils by the action of hydrogen.

### **1298. HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER STATION**

**Which is the largest hydro-electric power station in the world?**

It is the power station at Krasnoyarsk on the Yenisey river in USSR with a capacity of 60 lakh KW.



## **1299. HYDROLOGY**

### **What is Hydrology?**

It is the study of water in land, surface and underground, its properties, phenomena, distribution, movement and utilisation.

## **1300. HYDROPATHY**

### **What is Hydropathy?**

It is medical treatment by the application of water.

## **1301. HYDROPHONE**

### **What is Hydrophone?**

It is an instrument for the detection of sound waves under water.

## **1302. HYDROPONICS**

### **What is Dydroponics?**

It is soilless gardening.

## **1303. HYDROSTATISTICS**

### **What is Hydrostatistics?**

It is the scientific study of liquids at rest.

## **1304. HYPERBOLE**

### **What is Hyperbole?**

It is a figure of speech consisting of exaggeration or extravagance of statement. It is used deliberately for effect and not meant to be taken literally as in 'the waves were mountain high'.

## **1305. HYPOCHONDRIA**

### **What is Hypochondria?**

It is believing without reason that one is ill.

## **1306. HYPOTENUSE**

### **In a right angle triangle what is the hypotenuse?**

It is the largest side of the triangle facing the right angle.



### **130.7 HYPSONETER**

#### **What is Hypsoneter?**

It is an instrument used by mountaineers to measure height by measuring the atmospheric pressure, and determining the boiling point of water at a particular place.

### **1308. HYSTERIA**

#### **What is Hysteria?**

It is disorder of the mind shown by unsteadiness of the emotions and illness of the body, which are emotionally caused.

### **I**

### **1309. IBERIAN PENINSULA**

#### **Which countries form the Iberian peninsula?**

Spain and Portugal form the Iberian peninsula.

### **1310. IBN AL ARABI**

#### **Who was Ibn al-aArabi?**

Ibn al Arabi (d 1240) was a saint and poet of Muslim Spain. He wrote superb mystical poetry. His descriptions of hell and paradise were adopted by Dante in his poem 'Divine Comedy'.

### **1311. IBN AL FARID**

#### **Who was Ibn al Farid?**

Ibn al Farid (d 1235) was a saint and Arabic poet. He wrote mystical poetry in a subtle and fluent style.

### **1312. IBN HAMDIS**

#### **Who was Ibn Hamdis?**

Ibn Hamdis (id 1138) flourshed in the court of Sicily. He wrote poems on nature and is known as 'Arabic Wordswoth'.

### **1313. IBN ZAYDUN**

#### **Who was Ibn Zaydun?**

Ibn Zaydun (d 1070) is regarded as the greatest poet of Muslim Spain. His odes and love songs in the praise of his beloved Wallada attained the heights of perfection.



#### **1314. ICE**

**What is the total volume of ice in the world?**

The total volume of ice in the world is 9 lakh cubic miles.

#### **1315. ICE AGES**

**How many major ice ages have been in the life of the earth?**

There have been four or five such ages. The earliest age was 7 crore years ago. The last ice age was 20 lakh years ago. During the ice ages over one third of the land area was covered with ice. At present one tenth of the total land area is covered with ice.

#### **1316. ICEBERGS**

**What are icebergs?**

When glaciers, slow moving rivers of ice fall into sea, they break up into huge masses of ice. These masses of floating ice are called ice bergs.

#### **1317. ICHNOLOGY**

**What is Ichnology?**

It is the scientific study of fossil footprints.

#### **1318. ICTHYOLOGY**

**What is Ichthyology?**

It is the science of fish.

#### **1319. ICONOCLAST**

**Who is an iconoclast?**

He is a person opposed to the religious use of images.

#### **1320. ICONOSCOPE**

**What is Iconoscope?**

It is an instrument which changes a picture into an electric current so that it can be sent by radio waves and picked up by a television receiver.



### **1321. IDEA**

**What is an idea?**

It is the form or appearance of a thing as opposed to its reality.

### **1322. IDEALISM**

**What is idealism?**

It is behaviour or thought based on a conception of things as they should be or as one would wish them to be.

### **1323. IDENTITY CRISIS**

**In psycho analysis what is identity crises?**

It is the condition of being uncertain of one's feelings about one's self.

### **1324. IDEOGRAM**

**What is an ideogram?**

It is a graphic symbol representing an idea.

### **1325. IDEOLOGY**

**What is ideology?**

It is the study of ideas and ideals.

### **1326. IDIOM**

**What is an idiom?**

It is an expected phrase.

### **1327. IGNITION POINT**

**What is the ignition point?**

It is the lowest temperature at which a substance would burn.

### **1328. ILLUSION**

**What is an illusion?**

It is an error in perception.



### 1329. IMAGE

In Optics, what is an image?

It is the optical counterpart or picture of an object produced by reflection from a mirror or reflection from a mirror.

### 1330. IMAGE, REAL AND VIRTUAL

When is an image real and when is it virtual?

An image is real when it can be taken on a screen; otherwise it is virtual.

### 1331. IMAGINATION

What is imagination?

It is the act or power of forming mental images of what is not actually present.

### 1332. IMMUNITY

With reference to disease what is immunity?

It is protection against the particular disease.

### 1333. IMPASSE

What is impasse?

It is a deadlock, a predicament affording no escape.

### 1334. IMPLICATION

What is an implication?

It is something hinted at, but not put in exact words.

### 1335. IMPULSE

What is impulse?

It is the tendency to act without deliberation.

### 1336. INCANDESCENT

When is a substance said to be incandescent?

It is said to be incandescent when it is hot that it produces white light.



### **1337. INCAS**

**Who were the Incas?**

They were the people who inhabited ancient Peru, and reached a high level of civilisation. They were overthrown by the Spaniards in 1533.

### **1338. INCLINOMETER**

**What is Inclinator?**

It is an instrument for measuring slopes.

### **1339. INCREASING RETURNS**

**When are things said to be produced under conditions of increasing returns?**

Things are said to be so produced when costs do not rise proportionately to the increase of output.

### **1340. INCUBATION**

**In zoology what is incubation?**

It is the process by which birds stimulate the development of their eggs by the heat of the body.

### **1341. INDIA**

**What is the area and population of India?**

The area is 1,262,000 square miles.

According to the 1971 census the population was 550,374,000.

### **1342. INDIAN OCEAN**

**What are the main particulars about the Indian Ocean?**

It stretches to the south of Asia between Africa and Australia. Its area is 28 million square miles. Its greatest depth is 24,400 ft south of Java.

### **1343. INDONESIA**

**What is the area and population of Indonesia?**

The area is 736,000 square miles. The population is 125,812,000



#### 1344. INDIVIDUALISM

**What is the concept of individualism?**

It is a theory in politics and economics that opposes the interference of the State in the affairs of individuals. It is opposed to socialism and communism. It was advocated by Adam Smith, Bentham, Mill and Spencer and was very strong in the 19th century.

#### 1345. INDUCTION

**In Philosophy what is induction?**

It is the method of reasoning by which, on the basis of specific observations and instances, an inference is drawn about a general state or abstract concept which organises and makes meaningful those separate elements.

#### 1346. INDUS

**What is the Indus?**

It is a river of Pakistan. It rises in Tibet and flows through Kashmir and Pakistan. It finally falls in the Arabian Sea after covering a course of 1800 miles. The river forms one of the world's major river systems.

#### 1347. INDUS, BRIDGES

**At what places in Pakistan is the Indus bridged?**

It is bridged at Tarbela; Attock; Khushalgarh; Kalabagh; Chashma; Taunsa; Gudu; Sukkur; Jamshoro; Kotri; and Sujawal.

#### 1348. INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY

**How does industrial activity in developed areas compare with such activities in under developed areas?**

The developed areas with 30 percent of the world population account for 85 percent of the world industrial production. Under developed countries with 70 percent of the world population account for 15 percent of the world industrial production.

#### 1349. INDUSTRIAL GOODS, JAPAN

**With regard to which industrial goods is Japan the first producer?**

It is the first producer in respect of radio receivers, motor trucks and merchant vessels.



### **1350. INDUSTRIAL GOODS, USA**

**With regard to which industrial goods is USA the first producer in the world?**

It is the first producer in respect of petroleum products; Sulphuric acid; Caustic Soda; Fertilisers; Plastics; Steel; Aluminium; Copper; Synthetic rubber; Paper; Cotton yarn; Rayon; Motor Cars; and Television receivers.

### **1351. INDUSTRIAL GOODS, USSR**

**With regard to which industrial goods is USSR the first producer?**

It is the first producer in respect of coke, cement, and wool yarn.

### **1352. INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION**

**What was the industrial revolution?**

It was the radical change that took place from 1760 to 1840 transforming agricultural economy into industrial one.

### **1353. INDUSTRY**

**What is industry?**

It denotes activities concerned with the production of goods.

### **1354. INERTIA**

**What is inertia?**

It is the tendency of a body to remain at rest, if at rest, or to continue moving if in motion unless acted upon by some external force.

### **1355. INERTIA SELLING**

**In business what is inertia selling?**

It is a practice in which goods are sent to householders without having been ordered.

### **1356. INFECTION**

**What is infection?**

It is the conveyance of disease into the body by matter infected with micro-organisms.



## **1357. INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

**What are infectious diseases?**

These are diseases which can be communicated from a suffering person to another. Some of these diseases are: Influenza; typhoid; tuberculosis; dysentery; plague; and leprosy.

## **1358. INFERENCE**

**What is inference?**

It is the process of drawing a conclusion.

## **1359. INFERIORITY COMPLEX**

**What is inferiority complex?**

It is a state of lack of confidence in one's ability to compete with others demonstrated by diffidence or dissatisfaction with one's achievements.

## **1360. INFLUENZA**

**In influenza which parts of the body are attacked most?**

The parts of the body which are attacked are the nose, the throat, and the lungs.

## **1361. INFRA RED RAYS**

**What are infra red rays?**

These are electro-magnetic waves or rays beyond the red rays of the visible spectrum. These are used to elucidate molecular structures and to photograph through fog and mist at distances invisible to the human eye.

## **1362. INFRA STRUCTURE**

**What is infra structure?**

It denotes the services regarded as essential for the creation of a modern economy, e.g. power, transport, housing, education, and health.

## **1363. INGESTION**

**What is ingestion?**

It is the process of taking in food.



### **1364. INGRATITUDE**

**In what terms does Shakespeare talk of ingratitude?**

His famous verses on the subject are:

“Blow, blow, thou winter wind;  
Thou art not so unkind  
As man’s ingratitude”.

### **1365. INHALING**

**What is the quantity of air inhaled by an adult?**

An adult breathes 16—20 times a minute and the quantity of air inhaled is one pint per breath.

### **1366. INJUNCTION**

**In law, what is an injunction?**

It is an order issued by a court to do or not to do any act,

### **1367. INJUSTICE**

**What does injustice imply?**

It implies unjust treatment of another or a violation of his rights.

### **1368. INN OF COURTS**

**What are the four Inns of England which admit persons to practise at the bar?**

These are Inner Temple; Middle Temple; Lincoln’s Inn; and Gray’s Inn.

### **1369. INSECT, LONGEST LIFE**

**Which insect has the longest life?**

The Cicada lives longest, 17 years.

### **1370. INSOLATION**

**What is insolation?**

It is the energy emitted by the sun which reaches the earth.



### **1371. INSOMNIA**

**What is Insomnia?**

It is the disease when a person is not able to sleep well.

### **1372. INSTINCT**

**What is an instinct?**

It is an activity which enables an individual to deal competently with the environment without previous experience and practice.

### **1373. INSULATOR**

**What is an insulator?**

It is a substance that do not conduct electricity. Rubber, cotton, oil are some insulators.

### **1374. INSTITUTIONALISM**

**What is institutionalism?**

It is belief in usefulness and sanctity of established institutions.

### **1375. INSTRUMENTALISM**

**In Philosophy what is instrumentalism?**

It is the doctrine that ideas are plans for action serving as instruments for adjustment to the environment and that their validity is tested by their effectiveness.

### **1376. INSURRECTION**

**What is insurrection?**

It is a rising up against established authority.

### **1377. INTEGRATION**

**What is integration?**

It is joining together parts to make a whole which works together as one.



### **1378. INTELLECT**

**What is intellect?**

It is mind in its cognitive aspect particularly with reference to the higher thought processes.

### **1379. INTELLIGENCE**

**What is intelligence?**

It is the general ability to solve intellectual problems on the basis of past learning and present grasp of essentials.

### **1380. INTELLIGENCE QUOTIENT**

**How is intelligence quotient of an individual determined?**

It is determined by comparing his individual performance on a given test with the average performance of his age group.

### **1381. INTELLIGENCE TEST**

**What is an intelligence test?**

It is a measure of aptitude, an attempt to predict the intellectual achievement of an individual.

### **1382. INTENSIVE CULTIVATION**

**What is intensive cultivation?**

It is the application of capital and labour to a relatively small piece of land to obtain high yields.

### **1383. INTER GOVERNMENT MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANISATION (IMCO)**

**What is the Inter Government Maritime Consultative Organisation?**

It is a UNO specialised agency. Its purpose is to increase safety at sea to help increase shipping facilities for the expansion of trade without discrimination.

### **1384. INTERPLANETARY SATELLITE**

**What is the Interplanetary satellite?**

It is a space craft that USSR proposes to launch in 1978 for a grand tour of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.



### **1385. INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE**

**What is an internal combustion engine?**

It is an engine where the fuel is burnt inside the engine.

### **1386. INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)**

**What is the International Atomic Energy Agency?**

It is an autonomous international organisation under the UNO with headquarters at Vienna, Austria. Its purpose is to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace and prosperity and to ensure that any such assistance is not misused for military purpose.

### **1387. INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (IBRD)**

**What is the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development?**

It is a specialised agency of the UNO with headquarters at Washington. Its purpose is to lend money to rebuild war torn areas, and to develop under-developed areas.

### **1388. INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION (ICAO)**

**What is the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)?**

It is a specialised agency of the UNO with headquarters at Montreal Canada. Its aim is to provide safe, regular, and efficient air transport.

### **1389. INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE**

**What is the International Court of Justice?**

It is the judicial organ of the United Nations. It considers legal disputes brought before it by nations. It also advises the UNO on legal matters. The court consists of 15 judges and sits at the Hague, Netherlands.

### **1390. INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION (IFC)**

**What is the International Finance Corporation?**

It is a specialised agency of the UNO with headquarters at Washington. It is affiliated with the International Bank. Its purpose



is to promote economic development by aiding private enterprise in member countries, particularly in less developed areas.

### **1391. INTERNATIONAL GEOPHYSICAL YEAR**

**When was the International Geophysical Year celebrated?**

It was celebrated from July 1, 1957 to December 31, 1958.

### **1392. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO)**

**What is the International Labour Organisation?**

It is a specialised agency of the UNO with headquarters at Geneva. Its objects are to improve labour conditions; to raise standard of living; and to promote social and economic stability through the joint efforts of government, management and labour.

### **1393. INTERNATIONAL LAW**

**What is international law?**

It is the law regulating the relations between nations.

### **1394. INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION**

**What is the International Law Commission?**

It is a Commission set up by the UNO to prepare drafts on a number of topics of international law.

### **1395. INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (IMF)**

**What is the International Monetary Fund?**

It is a specialised agency of the UNO with headquarters at Washington. It offers facilities to member nations to expand trade. It controls the interflational exchange in order to avoid competitive exchange depreciation.

### **1396. INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR**

**When was the International Polar Year celebrated?**

It was celebrated from the 1st of July 1957 to 31st December 1958 devoted to polar meteorological research.



### **1397. INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)**

**What is the International Telecommunication Union?**

It is a specialised agency of the UNO with headquarters at Geneva. Its purpose is to coordinate the use of telephone, radio and telegraph throughout the world, and to agree on uniform regulation, cost and safety measures with regard to telecommunications.

### **1398. INTERNECINE WARFARE**

**What is internecine warfare?**

It is war involving slaughter on both sides.

### **1399. INTESTATE**

**Who is an intestate?**

He is a person who dies without making a will.

### **1400. INTUITION**

**What is intuition?**

It denotes spiritual inspiration which enables one to know the distinction between what is right or wrong. According to Bergson intuition is that sympathetic attitude to the reality without us that makes us seem to enter into it to be one with it and to live in it.

### **1401. INVENTION**

**What is invention?**

It is a new technique or piece of equipment for the performance of a task.

### **1402. INVENTIONS, 18TH CENTURY**

**What are the inventions of the 18th century?**

These are: Balloon 1783; Bifocal lens 1780; Boring Machine 1774; Steam Car 1769; Chronometer 1735; Mechanical Clock 1725; Gas lighting 1792; Hydrogen 1766; Life boat 1785; Lithography 1799; Power loom 1785; Oxygen 1774; Parachute 1797; Steamship 1775; Spinning Frame 1769; Steam Engine 1712; Self winding watch 1791.



### 1403. INVENTIONS, 19TH CENTURY

**What are the inventions of the 19th century?**

These are: Addressograph 1893; Arc lamp 1879; Ball Point Pen 1888; Barbed Wire 1873; Bicycle 1839; Motor Car 1885; Cement 1824; Diesel Engine 1895; Dynamite 1868; Dynamo 1860; Electric Furnace 1861; Electric Lamp 1879; Electric Motor 1873; Fountain Pen 1884; Gas Engine 1876; Glider 1853; Gramophone 1878; Gun 1855; Locomotive 1804; Machine Gun 1861; Safety Match 1855; Microphone 1876; Motor Cycle 1884; Photography 1826; Pistol 1835; Pneumatic tyre 1887; Rotary Printing 1846; Railway 1025; Safety Razor 1895; Reaping Machine 1831; Refrigerator 1851; Safety Lamp 1815; Safety Pin 1849; Sewing Machine 1830; Steamer 1807; Stethoscope 1816; Submarine 1801; Telegraph Code 1837; Telephone 1861; Tramway 1858; Typewriter 1864; Wireless 1888; X-Rays 1895,

### 1404. INVENTIONS, 20TH CENTURY

**What are the inventions of the 20th century?**

These are: Aeroplane 1908; Autogiro 1920; Disc brake 1902; Computer 1942; Films 1923; Gyro-compass 1911; Jet engine 1937; Loud speaker 1924; Microscope (Electron) 1939; Motor Scooter 1919; Neon lamp 1915; Nylon 1937; Radar 1935; Radio Telegraphy 1901; Rayon 1910; Electric Razor 1931; Stainless Steel 1913; Military Tank 1914; Television 1926; Tractor 1900; Transistor 1948.

### 1405. INVERTEBRATE

**Which creatures are invertebrate?**

These are the creatures without back bone.

### 1406. INVISIBLE EXPORTS

**What are invisible exports?**

These relate to income from services a country can perform abroad such as banking, insurance, shipping and other forms of transport. All these services earn the country foreign currency without anything having physically left the country.

### 1407. IODINE

**Why do we need iodine in our diet?**

We need iodine to strengthen teeth and bones.



#### **1408. IONOSPHERE**

**What is Ionosphere?**

It is the layer of the atmosphere extending above the chemosphere. Here the particles are ionised or electrically charged by the sun's ultra violet radiation. It extends to about 250 miles. The temperature is about 1600 C.

#### **1409. IQBAL, WORKS**

**Which are the poetical works of Allama Sir Muhammad Iqbal (1877—1938)?**

These are: Bang-i-Durra; Bal-i-Jibreel; Zarb-i-Kalim; Armghan-i-Hijaz; Asrar-i-Khudi; Ramuz-i-Bekhud; Payam-i-Mashriq; Zabur-i-Ajam; Pas Cheh Baid Kard; and Javed Nama.

#### **1410. IRIIDIUM**

**What is the Iridium?**

It is the heaviest metal in the world. It was discovered in 1804 by Smithson Tennant of USA. It is a silvery white metal of the platinum group. It weighs 1414 pounds a cubic foot. A two foot cube of the metal would be as heavy as an elephant.

#### **1411. IRON, CAST AND WROUGHT**

**What is the difference between cast iron and wrought iron?**

Cast iron is impure iron while wrought iron is purified iron.

#### **1412. IRON, LEADING PRODUCERS**

**Which countries are the leading producers of iron?**

These are; USSR 27%; USA 15%; Canada 7%; Sweden 5%; rest 44%.

#### **1413. IRON LUNG**

**What is an iron lung?**

It is an apparatus for administering artificial respiration.

#### **1414. IRON MINE, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest iron mine in the world?**

The largest iron mine is at Lebedibisky, USSR with over one million tons of ore as reserve.



## **1415. IRRIGATION**

**What is irrigation?**

It is the supply of water to land by artificial channels.

## **1416. IRRIGATION CANAL, LONGEST**

**Which is the longest irrigation canal in the world?**

It is the Kara Kumski canal in Turkmenistan, USSR, 546 miles long.

## **1417. ISLAM**

**What does Islam mean?**

Literally Islam means submission, surrender, obedience and peace. Islam stands for complete surrender and submission to God. It envisages that peace can only be achieved by man through submission and obedience to God.

## **1418. ISLAM, FUNDAMENTALS**

**What are the fundamentals of Islam?**

These are:

- (1) Belief in the Unity of God;
- (2) Finality of the prophethood of Hazrat Muhammad (peace be on him);
- (3) Belief in the Quran;
- (4) Belief in angels; belief in life after death; and belief in the day of judgment; and
- (5) Offering of prayers; observance of fast; performance of pilgrimage; and the undertaking of Jihad in the way of God.

## **1419. ISLANDS**

**Name the first seven largest islands in the world?**

These are: Greenland 1,250,000 sq miles; New Guinea 300,000 sq. miles; Borneo 290,000 sq miles; Madagascar 228,000 sq miles; Baffin 200,000 sq miles; Sumatra 163,000 sq miles, Great Britain 88,210 sq miles.



## **1420. ISLAND, REMOTEST**

**Which is the remotest island in the world?**

The remotest island in the world is 'Bouvet Oya' in South Atlantic, 1050 miles from the nearest land.

## **1421. ISOBARS**

**What are isobars?**

These are lines connecting points which are at the same atmospheric pressure.

## **1422. ISOBATHS**

**What are isobaths?**

These are lines connecting together points of equal depth within the ocean.

## **1423. ISOHALINES**

**What are isohalines?**

These are lines joining together all points in the sea of equal salinity.

## **1424. ISOHELs**

**What are Isohels?**

These are lines joining together places having equal duration of sunshine.

## **1425. ISOHYETS**

**What are Isohyets?**

These are lines connecting places having equal amounts of rainfall over a specified period.

## **1426. ISONEPHS**

**What are IsonephS?**

These are lines joining together places with equal amounts of cloud.



### **1427. ISOTHERMS**

**What are Isotherms?**

These are lines drawn on a map linking up all those places where the temperature is the same.

### **1428. ISOTASY**

**What is the theory of Isotasy?**

The theory is that the crust of the earth is relatively balanced in weight and pressure throughout.

### **1429. ISTANBUL**

**Where is Istanbul?**

It is the largest city in Turkey. It is on the Bosphorous and has a population of 22,47,630. Its original name was Constantinople, and was founded in 330 AD. The name was officially changed to Istanbul in 1930.

### **1430. ISTHMUS**

**What is an Isthmus?**

It is a narrow strip of land joining two large land areas. Some isthmuses are: Isthmus of Panama and the Isthmus of Suez.

### **1431. ITALY**

**What is conspicuous about the physical shape of Italy?**

It is shaped like a boot.

### **1432. IVORY TOWER**

**What is Ivory Tower?**

It is figuratively a place of mental withdrawal from reality and action.

### **1433. IZVESTIA**

**What is Izvestia?**

It is a newspaper which is the official organ of USSR.



## **J**

### **1434. JACK O LANTERN**

**What is Jack o lantern?**

It is an elusive light seen over marshes at night.

### **1435. JALALUDDIN RUMI**

**Who was Jalaluddin Rumi?**

Jalaluddin Rumi (d 1273) was a great saint and poet. His poem 'Masnavi' is regarded as the greatest of the Islamic mystical monuments.

### **1436. JAMBOREE**

**What is Jamboree?**

It is a national or international assembly of boy scouts,

### **1437. JAMMU AND KASHMIR**

**What is the total area of Jammu and Kashmir and how much thereof is under Pakistan control?**

The total area is 86,024 sq miles and out of this an area of 31,000 sq miles is under Pakistan control.

### **1438. JANNISSARIES**

**Who were the Jannissaries?**

They were an elite band of Turkish foot soldiers who acted as the Sultan's body guard and who took the oath to sacrifice their lives for the sake of the Sultan.

### **1439. JAPAN**

**Which are the four main islands constituting Japan?**

These are Honshu; Hokkaido; Slikoku; and Kyushu.

### **1440. JAVA APE-MAN**

**Who was Java Ape man?**

In 1891 fossil remains of the skull of a man was found in Java.



This primitive man-like creature who lived about 5 lakh years ago is referred to as Java ape man.

#### **1441. JAVELIN THROW**

**What is the record for the longest javelin throw?**

In 1964, T.O. Pedersen of Norway established a record of 300 ft 11 inches.

#### **1442. JAXARTES**

**What is the present name of the river formerly known as Jaxartes?**

The present name of the river is Syr Darya.

#### **1443. WALK**

**What is Jay Walk?**

It is walking carelessly in disregard of traffic rules.

#### **1444. JEALOUSY**

**What is Jealousy?**

It is a complex emotional state involving a sentiment of hate by one person for another because of the relations of both to a third.

#### **1445. JEANS, SIR JAMES**

**Who was Sir James Jeans?**

James Jeans (1877—1946) was an English scientist and mathematician. His well known books include 'The Mysterious Universe' and 'The Stars in their Courses'.

#### **1446. JENNER, EDWARD**

**Who was Edward Jenner?**

Edward Jenner (1749—1823) was the first to introduce vaccination as a cure against small pox.

#### **1447. JERUSALAM**

**Where is Jerusalem?**

It is in Palestine, and is a holy place for the Jews, the Muslims and the Christians. It is situated in the Judean hills, and is 35



miles from the Mediterranean Sea. In 1948 Jerusalem was divided between Jordan and Israel. The entire city was taken over by the Jews in the war of 1967. Israel has shifted its capital from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The city contains the Dome of the Rock, and the Jew's Wailing Wall.

#### **1448. JET ENGINE**

**What is a jet engine?**

It is an aeroplane engine which derives its thrust from the high velocity of gases it ejects.

#### **1449. JET PLANE**

**Why does a jet plane make so much noise?**

The jet plane has powerful engines and because they are so big they make a great deal of noise. The jet engine sucks in air through an opening at the front and inside the engine the air is compressed. Then the air is mixed with fuel and burnt, and hot gases burst out at the rear. The noise is due to the roar of the air going in and gases rushing out plus the sound of the machinery that compresses the air.

#### **1450. JET PROPULSION**

**In an aeroplane what is jet propulsion?**

It is causing an aeroplane to go forward by sucking in air in front, mixing it with oil, setting fire to it, and sending out the hot burnt gases at the back.

#### **1451. JET STREAM**

**What is Jet stream?**

Jet stream are the currents of air that move in the upper regions of the atmosphere at the height of about 30,000 ft. The speed of the jet stream is 100—200 miles per hour.

#### **1452. JETTY**

**What is a jetty?**

It is a wall built in water to protect a harbour.



### **1453. JEWISH CALENDAR, MONTHS**

**Which are the months of the Jewish calendar?**

The months are: Tishri; Heshvan; Kislev; Tebet; Shebat, Adar; Nisan; Iyar; Sivan; Tammuz; Ab; and Elul.

### **1454. JIGSAW PUZZLE**

**What is a jig-saw puzzle?**

It is a puzzle made by cutting up a picture into pieces of irregular shape, which must be put together again to reform the picture.

### **1455. JOB'S COMFORTER**

**Who is a Job's comforter?**

He is an annoying sympathiser.

### **1456. JOCKEY**

**Who is a Jockey?**

He is a person who rides a horse in a race.

### **1457. JUPITER**

**What are the particulars about the planet Jupiter?**

Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system. Its weight is 318 times and volume 1318 times that of the earth. Its diameter is 88770 miles, 11 times the diameter of the earth. It is 48.3 crore miles from the sun. The Jupiter has 12 moons. The surface temperature is —200 F. A day on the Jupiter is equal to 10 hours of the earth, and the year is equal to 12 years of the earth.

### **1458. JURA MOUNTAINS**

**Where are the Jura mountains?**

These are along the border of France and Switzerland.

### **1459. JURIDICAL DAYS**

**What are juridical days?**

These are days when the courts are in session.



## **1460. JURISPRUDENCE**

**What is Jurisprudence?**

It is the science or philosophy of law.

## **1461. JURY**

**What is a jury?**

It is a group of persons commissioned to advise on a law suit or case.

## **1462. JUSTICE**

**What is justice?**

It is the administration of law so that the right of a person is vindicated.

# **K**

## **1463. KAABA**

**Why is the Kaaba so called?**

It is so called because of its cubical shape.

## **1464. KALEIDOSCOPE**

**What is a kaleidoscope?**

It is a tube like instrument containing loose bits of coloured glass reflected by mirrors so that various symmetrical patterns appear when the tube is held to the eye and rotated.

## **1465. KALHARI DESERT**

**Where is the Kalhari desert?**

It is in Central Africa between the rivers Orange and Zambezi. Its area is 20,000 square miles.

## **1466. KANT**

**Who was Kant and what is his philosophy?**

Immanuel Kant (1724—1804) was a German philosopher. He held that the content of knowledge comes a posteriori from



sense perception but that its form is determined by a priori categories of the mind. He also held that God, freedom and immortality cannot be proved or denied by empirical knowledge though these are implied by rational morality.

#### **1467. KARIBA DAM**

**Where is the Kariba dam?**

It is on the Zambezi river on Rhodesia-Zambia border. It was completed in 1960 and is one of the longest dams in the world.

#### **1468. KEROSENE OIL**

**How does the pouring of kerosene oil on stagnant pools contribute to the eradication of malaria?**

The stagnant pools are the breeding ground of mosquitoes. The larvae of mosquitoes grow up in water and come to the surface to breathe. By spraying kerosene oil the mosquitoes are prevented from breathing and hence they die.

#### **1469. KETTLE**

**Why does the kettle not get red hot when heated?**

When something is being cooked in a kettle there is bound to be water in it. Water holds more heat than other things. The water takes heat from the kettle, and thus the kettle does not become red hot.

#### **1470. K.I.A.**

**What does 'K.I.A.' stand for?**

It stands for 'Killed in action'.

#### **1471. KIEL CANAL**

**Where is the Kiel Canal?**

It is in West Germany 61 miles long and connects the Baltic Sea and the North Sea.

#### **1472. KILIMANJARO**

**What is Kilimanjaro?**

It is the highest mountain of Africa 19565 ft. It lies just south of the equator in Tanzania. There are coffee plantations on the



lower slopes. In spite of the closeness of the equator it is snow capped. Its summit was climbed in 1899.

### **1473. KINEMATICS**

**What is Kinematics?**

It is the branch of mechanics that deals with motion in the abstract.

### **1474. KINESCOPE**

**What is Kinescope?**

It is a cathode ray tube used in television receivers.

### **1475. KINESICS**

**What is kinesics?**

It is the study of bodily movements and gestures when speaking.

### **1476. KINESIOLOGY**

**What is Kinesiology?**

It is the science or study of human muscular movements as applied in physical education.

### **1477. KINETIC ENERGY**

**What is kinetic energy?**

It is energy possessed by a body by virtue of its motion.

### **1478. KINETIC THEORY**

**What is the kinetic theory?**

It is the theory that minute particles of all matter are in constant motion and that the temperature of a substance is dependent on the velocity of this motion, increased motion being accompanied by increased temperature.

### **1479. KING OF RIVERS**

**Which river is called the king of rivers?**

The Amazon in South America is called the king of rivers because it carries more water than any other river in the world.



#### **1480. KITE**

**How does a kite fly?**

In flying a kite when a downward jerk is given to the kite the air is pushed down and the reaction of the air pushes the kite upward.

#### **1481. KITE FLYING RECORD**

**What is the record for the greatest height attained by a kite?**

A kite flown by the High School boys in Indiana (USA) in 1970 attained the height of 35,530 ft.

#### **1482. KITE FLYING, TIME**

**What is the record for the longest time in kite flying?**

The record is 440 hours by Patrick Dunlop, San Dienge in April 1972.

#### **1483. KNOWLEDGE-POSTERIORI**

**What is posteriori knowledge?**

It is knowledge gained by reference to the facts of experience.

#### **1484. KNOWLEDGE, PRIORI**

**What is a priori knowledge?**

It is knowledge derived from reason alone.

#### **1485. KOUMINTANG**

**In China what was Koumintang?**

It was the Chinese nationalist party formed in 1891 as a movement devoted to political democracy and social reform.

#### **1486. KU KLUX KLAN**

**What was Ku Klux Klan?**

It was a secret society in USA originally founded in 1866 to re-establish white supremacy in the southern states by terrorising negroes and their sympathisers.



#### **1487. KYMOGRAPH**

**What is a kymograph?**

It is an instrument for recording variation of pressure in sound waves.

**L**

#### **1488. LABOUR**

**Who form labour?**

All wage earning workers as a group constitute labour.

#### **1489. LABOUR DAY**

**Which is the labour day in Pakistan?**

The first of May is celebrated as the Labour Day.

#### **1490. LABYRINTH**

**What is a labyrinth?**

It is a structure containing an intricate network of winding passages hard to follow without losing one's way.

#### **1491. LACQUER**

**What is lacquer?**

It is a coating substance consisting of resinous materials.

#### **1492. LACTOMETER**

**What is lactometer?**

It is an instrument for determining the richness of milk.

#### **1493. LAGOS**

**Where is Lagos?**

It is the capital of Nigeria in Africa.

#### **1494. LAISSEZ FAIRE**

**What is the doctrine of laissez faire?**

It is the economic doctrine of individualism as opposed to collectivism. It stands for the non-interference of the state in economic affairs.



#### **1495. LAKE, DEEPEST**

**Which is the deepest lake in the world?**

It is the Baikal lake in USSR depth 5712 ft.

#### **1496. LAKE, HIGHEST**

**Which is the highest lake in the world?**

It is the Titicaca lake in South America 12497 ft above the sea level.

#### **1497. LAKE, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest lake in the world?**

It is the Caspian Sea 152,234 square miles in area.

#### **1498. LAKE POETS**

**Who are known as the Lake poets?**

These are Wordsworth, Coleridge and Southey who lived in the Lake district in England.

#### **1499. LAMARCKISM**

**What is lamarckism?**

It is the theory that acquired characters can be inherited.

#### **1500. LAND**

**What are the particulars about the land surface on the earth?**

Land is 29 percent of the surface of the earth, the rest is water. The total land area is 57,270,000 square miles. The land is not a continuous stretch. It is broken into patches of land masses surrounded by bodies of water.

#### **1501. LAND OF MAPLE LEAF**

**Which country is known as the land of the maple leaf?**

Canada is known as the land of the maple leaf.



### **1502. LAND OF MILK AND HONEY**

**Which land is described in the Bible as the land of milk and honey?**

Canaan (now modern Lebanon) is described as such.

### **1503. LAND OF MILLION ELEPHANTS**

**Which country is called the land of a million elephants?**

Laos in South East Asia is called as such.

### **1504. LAND OF THE EAGLES**

**Which country is known as the land of the eagles?**

Albania is known as the land of the eagles.

### **1505. LAND OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE**

**Which country is known as the land of the golden fleece?**

Australia is known as the land of the golden fleece.

### **1506. LAND OF THE LONG WHITE CLOUD**

**Which country is known as the land of the long white cloud?**

Newzealand is known by this name.

### **1507. LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN**

**Which country is known as the land of the midnight sun?**

Norway is known as such.

### **1508. LAND OF THE MORNING CALM**

**Which is the land of the morning calm?**

It is Korea.

### **1509. LAND OF THE RISING SUN**

**Which is the land of the rising sun?**

It is Japan.



### **1510. LAND OF THE THUNDERBOLT**

**Which is the land of the thunderbolt?**

It is Bhutan.

### **1511. LAND OF THE WHITE ELEPHANTS**

**Which is the land of the white elephants?**

It is Thailand.

### **1512. LAND OF THOUSAND LAKES**

**Which is the land of thousand lakes?**

It is Finland.

### **1513. LAND, UTILISATION**

**How is the land surface on the earth utilised?**

Out of the total land surface 10 percent is cropped; 17% is grass land; 28 % is forest; 40 % is under desert and mountains; the rest is under cities, roads, towns, and villages.

### **1514. LANGUAGES, NUMBER**

**What is the number of languages in the world?**

Their number is 2796.

### **1515. LANGUAGE, LARGEST ALPHABET**

**Which is the language with the largest alphabet?**

The Cambodian language has the largest alphabet, 74 letters.

### **1516. LANGUAGE, SMALLEST ALPHABET**

It is the Rotokars of South Pacific with 11 letters.

### **1517. LANDMASS, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest landmass in the world?**

It is the Eurasian landmass with an area of 21,053,000 sq miles.



## **1518. LAND SPEED RECORD**

**Which is the highest land speed record attained by any wheeled vehicle?**

The record is 627 miles per hour attained by 'The Blue Flame', a natural gas powered vehicle driven by Gary Gabelich in Utah in 1970.

## **1519. LA PAZ**

**Where is La Paz**

It is the capital of Bolivia in South America. It is the highest city in the world with a population of 6 lakh and an elevation of 12000 ft.

## **1520. LAPIDATION**

**What is lapidation?**

It is stoning a person to death.

## **1521. LAPIS LAZULI**

**What is lapis lazuli?**

It is an azure-blue, opaque, semi-precious stone.

## **1522. LARCENY**

**In law what is larceny?**

It is the unlawful taking away of another person's property.

## **1523. LARYNX**

**What is larynx?**

It is the voice box in the human body.

## **1524. LATENT HEAT**

**What is latent heat?**

It is the amount of heat expended in changing the state of a body without raising the temperature.

## **1525. LATHE**

**What is a lathe ?**

It is a machine for shaping an article of wood or metal by holding and turning it rapidly against the edge of a cutting or abrading tool.



## **1526. LATIN AMERICA**

**Which countries make Latin America?**

These include Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil; Chile; Columbia; Costa Rica; Cuba; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; El Salvador; Guatemala; Haiti; Honduras; Mexico; Nicaragua; Panama; Paraguay; Peru; Uruguay; and Venezuela.

## **1527. LAUGHTER**

**Why intense laughter makes one exhausted?**

That is because in intense laughter considerable energy is drained.

## **1528. LAUNCH WINDOW**

**What is launch window?**

It is the period of time during which conditions are favourable for launching a space craft on a particular mission.

## **1529. LAUSANNE, TREATY OF**

**What was the treaty of Lausanne?**

It was the treaty made with Turkey by the Allies on 24th July 1923. By the treaty Turkey surrendered all claim to territories occupied by non-Turks. Turkey retained eastern Thrace in Europe and the Greeks evacuated Smyrna.

## **1530. LAVA**

**What is lava?**

It is melted rock issuing from a volcano.

## **1531. LAW OF COMBINING WEIGHTS**

**What is the law of combining weights?**

The law is that elements combine in the ratio of their combining weights or chemical equivalents or in some simple multiple of their ratio.

## **1532. LAW OF COOLING**

**What is Newton's law of cooling?**

The law is that the rate of loss of heat of a hot body is directly



proportional to the difference of temperature between the body and the surroundings and is independent of the nature of the body.

### **1533. LAW OF THE CONSERVATION OF ENERGY**

**What is the law of the conservation of energy?**

The law is that energy can neither be created nor destroyed and the sum total of all energies always remains constant, and there is only a transformation of energy from one form to another.

### **1534. LAW OF CONSERVATION OF MASS OF MATTER**

**What is the law of the conservation of mass of matter?**

The law is that matter can neither be created nor destroyed, and that the sum total of mass or matter for any system always remains constant without increase or decrease in their quantity.

### **1535. LAW OF THE CONSERVATION OF MOMENTUM**

**What is the law of the conservation of momentum?**

The law is that in any reaction involving a perfectly elastic collision of particles the total momentum of the colliding particles is the same before and after the impact.

### **1536. LAW OF ELECTROSTATIC FORCE**

**What is the law of electrostatic force?**

The law is that the force acting between two charges is directly proportional to the product of the two charges and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between them.

### **1537. LAW OF EQUAL AREAS**

**What is the law of equal areas?**

The law is that a moving body undisturbed by any kind of force permits its radius vector to describe equal areas in equal times around any centre.

### **1538. LAW OF MAGNETIC POLES**

**What is the law of magnetic poles?**

The law is that like poles of a magnet repel and unlike poles attract each other.



### **1539. LAW OF ILLUMINATION**

**What is the law of illumination?**

The law is that the intensity of illumination of a surface by a source of light varies directly with the illuminating power of the source and inversely as the square of perpendicular distance from the source.

### **1540. LAW OF MASS ACTION**

**In Chemistry what is the law of mass action?**

The law is that the rate of chemical reaction is in proportion to the same molecular concentration of each of the reacting substances.

### **1541. LAW OF MOTION, FIRST LAW**

**What is the first law of motion?**

The law is that when a body is acted upon by a constant force its resulting acceleration is proportional to the force and inversely proportional to the mass.

### **1542. LAW OF MOTION, SECOND LAW**

**What is the second law of motion?**

The law is that to every acting force there is an equal and opposite reacting force.

### **1543. LAW OF MULTIPLE PROPORTIONS**

**In Chemistry what is the law of multiple proportions?**

The law is that two elements unite in more than one proportion for a fixed weight of one element, there is always a simple relationship with the weight of the other element present.

### **1544. LAW OF REFLECTION**

**In Optics what is the law of reflection?**

The law is that the angle at which a ray of light strikes the reflecting surface is exactly equal to the angle the reflected ray makes with the same surface.



## **1545. LAW OF THERMODYNAMICS**

**What is the law of thermodynamics?**

The law is that the heat produced in mechanical work is in proportion to the work done.

## **1546. LEADERSHIP**

**What is leadership?**

It is the exercise of authority in a social group.

## **1547. LEAGUE OF NATIONS**

**What was the League of Nations?**

It was an international organisation created in 1920 to preserve the peace and settle disputes by arbitration or conciliation. Its headquarter was in Geneva. It was dissolved in 1946 and was succeeded by the United Nations Organisation.

## **1548. LEAN FORWARD**

**Why do we lean forward when climbing a hill?**

By leaning we shorten the distance between our body and the ground and that enables us overcome the pull of the earth to some extent in the same way as we can hear a person better on putting our ear closer to him.

## **1549. LEANING TOWER**

**Where is the leaning tower?**

The leaning tower is in Pisa in Italy. It is 179 ft high. It leans over by  $16\frac{1}{2}$  ft. Some engineers think that the tower would ultimately topple down.

## **1550. LEARNING**

**What is learning?**

It is any relatively permanent change in an individual which results from experience.

## **1551. LEAP YEAR**

**What is a leap year?**

It is a year of 366 days occurring every fourth year (divisible by four) devised in order to allow for the fact that the period of the revolution of the earth round the sun is actually  $365\frac{1}{4}$  days.



### **1552. LEASE**

**What is lease?**

It is an instrument conveying the possession of real property for a fixed period of time for consideration of payment of rent.

### **1553. LEE SIDE**

**In a ship which is the leeseide?**

It is the opposite side to that from which the wind is blowing.

### **1554. LEEWARD**

**What is the leeward side of a mountain?**

It is the side away from the wind.

### **1555. LEFT HANDED**

**What is the number of left handed persons?**

Out of every hundred persons four are left handed.

### **1556. LEGACY**

**In law, what is a legacy?**

It is property left to a person by will.

### **1557. LEG BEFORE WICKET**

**In Cricket what is leg before wicket?**

If the batsman intercepts with any part of his person the ball prior to his touching his bat and which would have otherwise hit the wicket, he is out for the reason of 'leg before wicket'.

### **1558. LEGEND**

**In a picture or diagram what is a legend?**

It is the title or description thereunder.

### **1559. LEGEND LINE**

**In a book what is the legend line?**

It is the line of print telling the subject or meaning of a picture or diagram.



### **1560. LEGISLATURE, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest legislature in the world?**

It is the National People's Congress of China with a strength of 3500.

### **1561. LENA**

**Where is the Lena?**

It is a river in Siberia. It rises from Lake Baikal and falls in the Laptev Sea covering a distance of 2800 miles. In its lower course it is over seven miles wide.

### **1562. LENIN PEACE PRIZE**

**What is the Lenin Peace Prize?**

It is an award made by USSR for promoting world's peace through literature.

### **1563. LEONARDO DA VINCI**

**Who was Leonardo da Vinci?**

Leonardo da Vinci (1452—1519) was an Italian painter, sculptor, architect, engineer, and painter. Among his paintings the most well known are 'Mona Lisa', and 'Last Supper'.

### **1564. LEAVES**

**In plants, what is the role of leaves?**

The role of leaves is to manufacture food.

### **1565. LEAVES-DIRECTION**

**In what direction do the leaves of a plant turn?**

These always turn towards the sun.

### **1566. LETHARGY**

**What is lethargy?**

It is morbid drowsiness.



### **1567. LETHAL CHAMBER**

**What is a lethal chamber?**

It is a room where persons are executed by exposure to deadly gas.

### **1568. LETTER OF CREDIT**

**What is a letter of credit?**

It is a letter from a bank asking that the holder of the letter be allowed to draw specified sums of money from other banks or agencies, to be charged to the account of the writer of the letter.

### **1569. LETTER OF CREDENCE**

**What is a letter of credence?**

It is a formal document which a country's diplomatic representative carries as his credential to a foreign government.

### **1570. LEVER**

**In Mechanics what is a lever?**

It is a device consisting of a bar turning about a fixed point.

### **1571. LEVY EN MASSE**

**What is levy en masse?**

It is an armed rising by civilians in a territory in order to resist an approaching invader.

### **1572. LIBATION**

**What is libation?**

It is the ritual of pouring out wine or oil upon the ground as a sacrifice to a god.

### **1573. LIBEL**

**In law, what is a libel?**

It is a false defamation expressed in writing, printing or picture which injures the character or reputation of any one and exposes him to public ridicule or contempt.



#### **1574. LIBERAL**

**In politics who is a liberal?**

A liberal is one who is in favour of wide individual freedom and is against the concentration of power.

#### **1575. LIBERAL ARTS**

**What are liberal arts?**

These include literature, philosophy, languages, and history.

#### **1576. LIBERTY BELL**

**What was the Liberty Bell?**

It was the bell in the Independence Hall at Philadelphia which was rung on July 4, 1776 to proclaim the independence of US. The bell cracked in 1835.

#### **1577. LIBERTY CAP**

**What was the liberty cap?**

It was a cap adopted by the French revolutionists as a symbol of liberty.

#### **1578. LIBERTY, STATUTE OF**

**Where is the statute of liberty?**

It is a monument in New York. The statute shows a stately woman with a flaming torch raised in her right hand and a tablet bearing the date of the declaration of independence of USA in her left.

#### **1579. LIBRARY, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest library in the world?**

It is the Lenin State Library Moscow with 12 crore books.

#### **1580. LICENCE**

**In law, what is a licence?**

It is a permission by the State to enjoy a certain privilege. It is the usual way by which the State regulates professions and trades.



### **1593. LIGHTNING FLASH**

**What are the dimensions of a lightning flash?**

On an average there are 6 lakh flashes of lightning in the world every day. On an average each flash has an energy content of 80 lakh KW. The speed of lightning flash is 100 to 1000 miles per second. The temperature of the lightning flash is 30,000 C.

### **1594. LIGHTNING, STRIKE**

**Why does lightning strike some things and not others?**

That is because some things are good conductors of electricity and attract lightning while others are not.

### **1595. LILLIPUT**

**What is Lilliput?**

It is an imaginary land in Swift's 'Gullivers Travels' where the people were 6 inches tall.

### **1596. LIMITED COMPANY**

**Why is a limited company so called?**

It is so called because the liability of the shareholders is limited by the amount of the money they have invested.

### **1597. LIMNOLOGY**

**What is Limnology?**

It is the scientific study of fresh water lakes and ponds.

### **1598. LINCOLN**

**Who was Abraham Lincoln?**

Abraham Lincoln (1809—65) was the 16th President of USA. He was assassinated in 1765. He said democracy is a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

### **1599. LINEN**

**From the fibre of which plant is linen produced?**

It is produced from the fibre of flax.



## **1600. LINER**

**What is a liner?**

A liner is a passenger ship on the sea.

## **1601. LINER, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest liner in the world?**

The largest liner in the world is the 'France' 1035 ft long which can carry more than 2000 passengers.

## **1602. LINK**

**In the case of gold what is the link?**

It is the playground for golf.

## **1603. LION**

**How heavy is a lion?**

A grown up lion weighs about 500 pounds.

## **1604. LIQUID AIR**

**What is liquid air?**

It is a mixture of Oxygen and Nitrogen which has been compressed until the gases form a liquid. The liquid is kept under great pressure in strong steel cylinders.

## **1605. LISBON**

**Where is Lisbon?**

It is the capital of Portugal situated on the Tagus river.

## **1606. LISTLESSNESS**

**What is listlessness?**

It is the lack of interest and desire and connotes indifference and inactivity.

## **1607. LITHOLOGY**

**What is Lithology?**

It is the study of rocks in connection with their physical chemical and textual character.



## **1608. LIVER**

**In the human body what is the liver like and what does it do?**

It is like a blood filled sponge which absorbs the food digested in the intestines. It de-toxifies food and transforms the poisons in to harmless compounds. It also destroys bacilli that may enter the body. The average weight of liver is about three pounds. It manufactures digestive juices. It also acts as a filter in which the food received from the intestines goes through chemical process.

## **1609. LIVINGSTONE**

**Who was David Livingstone?**

He was an explorer. He discovered Zambesi river, Victoria Fall and Lake Nyasa in Africa in 1852—73.

## **1610. LIVING THINGS**

**Of the living things what are the main groups?**

These are:

- (1) Animals including human beings who can move;
- (2) Plants which are fixed; and
- (3) Protists, small organisms which it is not easy to classify either as animals or as plants.

## **1611. LOAD**

**In the case of a machine what is the load?**

It is the force against which work is done by the machine.

## **1612. LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**What is local government?**

It is a system whereunder the administration of the civic affairs of a town or a local area are entrusted to a local body elected by the local people.

## **1613. LOCKE**

**Who was John Locke?**

John Locke 1632—1704 was an English philosopher and political scientist. In his book "On Civil Government" he developed the theory that sovereignty depends upon contract.



### **1614. LOCK OUT**

**What is lock out?**

It is the closure of a business establishment or factory by the employer to prevent the workers from returning to work owing to a threatened strike.

### **1615. LOG DAYS**

**In USA what are Log Days?**

These are the hottest days in the summer.

### **1616. LOGIC**

**What is Logic?**

It is the science which studies and investigates the principles of reasoning and thought.

### **1617. LOGISTICS**

**What is Logistics?**

It is the branch of military science having to do with procuring, maintaining, and transporting material, personnel, and facilities.

### **1618. LOGICAL POSITIVISM**

**In Philosophy what is logical positivism?**

It is a movement in philosophy which tests all statements with reference to experience or the structure of language and is concerned with the unification of the sciences through a common logical language.

### **1619. LOG ROLLING**

**In politics what is log rolling?**

It is mutual aid among politicians, as by reciprocal voting for each others bills in the legislature.

### **1620. LOIRE**

**Where is the Loire?**

It is the longest river of France. It flows into the Atlantic after a course of 625 miles. The Loire valley is noted for its wines.



### **1621. LOMONOSOV**

**Who was Mikhail Lomonosov?**

Mikhail Lomonosov (1711—1765) is regarded as the 'Father of Russian Literature'.

### **1622. LONDON**

**What is the area and population of London?**

The area is 722 square miles and according to the latest census the population is 81,83,000.

### **1623. LONDON AIRPORT**

**What is the name for the London airport?**

The name is Heathrow.

### **1624. LONDON-SAMUEL JOHNSON**

**What did Samuel Johnson say about London?**

He said "He who is tired of London is tired of life".

### **1625. LONELIEST ISLAND**

**Which is the loneliest island in the world?**

The loneliest island is 'Tristan de Cunha' in the mid Atlantic.

### **1626. LONGEVITY**

**In modern times what is the record for longevity?**

The record is held by Pierre Joubert of Canada who died in 1814 at the age of 114 years.

### **1627. LONGITUDE**

**What is longitude?**

It is the distance east or west measured in degrees from the meridian of Greenwich in England.



### **1628. LONG JUMP**

**What is the record for the long jump?**

In 1965 R.H. Boston of USA established the record of 27 ft 5 inches.

### **1629. LOOM**

**What is a loom?**

It is a machine used for weaving textile fabrics.

### **1630. LOOPHOLE**

**What is a loophole?**

It is a slit in a wall of a fort for shooting through.

### **1631. LOOSE ENDS**

**What are loose ends?**

These are relatively minor matters still to be taken care of.

### **1632. LORDS SPIRITUAL**

**In Great Britain who are lords spiritual?**

These are archbishops and bishops who are the members of the House of Lords.

### **1633. LORDS TEMPORAL**

**In Great Britain who are lords temporal?**

They are the members of the House of Lords who are not clergymen.

### **1634. LOTUS**

**Which flower is sacred to the Buddhists?**

The lotus is sacred to Buddhists representing the earth and beauty.

### **1635. LOUISE**

**Who was Marie Louise?**

Marie Louise (1791—1847) was the second wife of Napoleon.



### **1636. LOUNGE SUIT**

**What is a lounge suit?**

It is a suit for ordinary use.

### **1637. LOYALTY**

**What is loyalty?**

It is an attitude or sentiment of devotion to a person, group or cause.

### **1638. LUANGE PRABANG**

**Where is Luange Prabang?**

It is the capital of Laos.

### **1639. LUMINESCENCE**

**What is luminescence?**

It is emission of light from a body from any cause other than high temperature.

### **1640. LUNGS**

**What are lungs?**

These are organs of breathing of vertebrate animals.

### **1641. LUSTREWARE**

**What is lustreware?**

It is a pottery with a glaze that has a metallic effect.

### **1642. LUTHER**

**Who was Martin Luther?**

Martin Luther (1483—1546) was the leader of the Protestants.

### **1643. LYNCH LAW**

**What is lynch law?**

It is mob rule.



#### **1644. LYSIMETER**

**What is Lysimeter?**

It is an apparatus for measuring the quantity of water percolating through the soil.

### **M**

#### **1645. MACADAM**

**In roadbuilding what is the principle underlying macadam?**

The principle is that certain types of angular stones roughly of uniform size and preferably calcareous would form a hard and permanent surface of rolled or compressed.

#### **1646. MACH**

**What is a Mach?**

It is a unit of supersonic speed equivalent to 741 miles per hour.

#### **1647. MACHINE**

**What is a machine?**

A machine is a contrivance that applies and converts force and motion to do work.

#### **1648. MACHINE, COMPLEX AND SIMPLE**

**What are complex and simple machines?**

The simple machines are the lever, the wheel, the axle, the pulley, the inclined plane, the wedge, and the screw.

The complex machines are a combination of two or more simple machines.

#### **1649. MACHINE, MARVELLOUS**

**Which is the most marvellous machine in the world?**

The most marvellous machine in the world is the human brain.



## **1650. MACHINE, MECHANICAL ADVANTAGE**

**What is the mechanical advantage of a machine?**

It is the ratio between the resistance or load and the force applied to overcome it.

## **1651. MADRID**

**Where is Madrid?**

It is the capital of Spain. It is situated on a plateau at an elevation of 2000 ft.

## **1652. MAGELEAN, FERDINAND**

**Who was Ferdinand Magelean?**

Ferdinand Magelean was the first to sail round the world in 1519—22.

## **1653. MAGINOT LINE**

**What was the Maginot line?**

It was a system of heavy fortifications built before world war II on the eastern frontier of France. It failed to prevent the invasion of Germany.

## **1654. MAGMA**

**What is Magma?**

It is molten rock material under the surface of the earth at a very high temperature charged with gas and volatile materials and under enormous pressure.

## **1655. MAGNATE**

**Who is a magnate?**

He is a very important or influential person in any field of activity.

## **1656. MAGNESIUM**

**What is Magnesium?**

It is a light silver white metallic element, malleable and ductile used in the making of alloys, and in photographic bulbs and incendiary bombs.



### **1657. MAGNET**

**What is a magnet?**

It is any piece that attracts iron.

### **1658. MAGNET, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest magnet in the world?**

It is 40,000 tons magnet at the Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, USSR.

### **1659. MAGNET, STRONGEST**

**Where is the strongest magnet in the world?**

It is in the Institute for Nuclear Research, USSR.

### **1660. MAGNETIC AXIS**

**What is magnetic axis?**

It is the straight line joining the two poles of a magnet.

### **1661. MAGNETIC GAS**

**What is the magnetic gas?**

It is the liquified Oxygen gas which shows magnetic properties.

### **1662. MAGNETICS**

**What is Magnetism?**

It is the branch of Physics dealing with magnets and magnetic phenomena.

### **1663. MAGNUM OPUS**

**What is Magnum Opus?**

It is a great work.

### **1664. MAIDEN OVER**

**In Cricket what is a maiden over?**

It is an over in which no run is scored.



### **1665. MAILED FIST**

**What is the mailed fist?**

It is the use or threat of force.

### **1666. MALEDICTION**

**What is malediction?**

It is a calling down of evil on some one.

### **1667. MALLEABILITY**

**What is malleability?**

It is the quality of certain metals to be beaten into thin sheets.

### **1668. MALNUTRITION**

**What is malnutrition?**

It is a condition of impaired bodily health with loss of vitality of the tissues as a result of inadequate diet.

### **1669. MAMMAL**

**What is a mammal?**

It is an air breathing, warm blooded and back boned animal who suckles its young.

### **1670. MAMMAL-CHARACTERISTICS**

**What are the characteristics of mammals?**

These are vertebrates with hair on their bodies. They breathe by lungs, bear their young alive, and nourish their young with milk from mammary glands.

### **1671. MAN ABOUT TOWN**

**Who is a man about town?**

He is a person who spends most of the time in restaurants and clubs.

### **1672. MANDATE**

**What is a mandate?**

It is an authoritative order or command.



### **1673. MANIFESTO**

**In the case of a political party what is a manifesto?**

It is the public declaration of the intentions and policies of a party.

### **1674. MANNA**

**Of which tree is manna the fruit?**

It is the fruit of the elm tree.

### **1675. MAN SLAUGHTER**

**What is man slaughter and how is it distinguished from murder?**

Man slaughter is killing a person by chance. Murder is killing a person with intention.

### **1676. MAN TALLEST**

**What is the record for the tallest man?**

The record is held by Robert Pershing Wadlow, Illinois who was 9 ft tall. He died in 1934.

### **1677. MANNERISM**

**What is mannerism?**

It is an exaggerated adherence to a particular manner or style.

### **1678. MAO TSE TUNG**

**Who was Mao Tse Tung?**

Mao Tse Tung (1893—1976) was the top most communist leader and the head of the state of the People's Republic of China.

### **1679. MARATHON RACE**

**What is the marathon race?**

It is the cross country race run on roads covering a distance of 26 miles and 385 yards.

### **1680. MARE'S NEST**

**What is a mare's nest?**

It is some absurd discovery.



### **1681. MARGINAL FIRM**

**What is a Marginal firm ?**

The marginal firm is a firm that is working in such relatively bad conditions that it is only just able to cover its costs.

### **1682. MARITIUS**

**Where is Maritius ?**

It is an island 500 miles to the east of Madagascar in the Indian Ocean.

### **1683. MARMARA, SEA OF**

**Where is the sea of Marmara ?**

It is an inland sea between Europe and Asia Minor connected by the Daradanelles with the Aegean Sea and by the Bosphorus with the Black Sea.

### **1684. MARX**

**Who was Heinrich Karl Marx ?**

Heinrich Karl Marx (1818—1883) was German philosopher and socialist. He propounded the theories of socialism and dialectical materialism. His monumental work is 'Das Capital'. He is regarded as the prophet of Communism.

### **1685. MARX-BASIC THOUGHT**

**What is the basic thought of Marx ?**

He maintains that economic structure is the basis of history and determines all the social, political and intellectual aspects of life.

### **1686. MASS**

**According to Physics what is mass ?**

It is the quantity of matter in a body.

### **1687. MATCH**

**Why does a match light by stiking ?**

That is because by striking the substances covering the stick are ignited.



## **1688. MATERIALISM**

**What is the theory of materialism?**

The theory is that the matter is the reality and the mind is only a manifestation of the working of the matter.

## **1689. MATERNITY HOSPITAL, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest maternity hospital in the world?**

It is the Handang Karban Government Maternity Hospital Singapore where 100 babies are born every day.

## **1690. MATTER**

**What is matter?**

Matter is anything that occupies space and has weight.

## **1691. MATTER, FORMS**

**What are the forms of matter?**

There are three forms, namely elements, mixtures and compounds.

An element is the simpler form of matter which cannot be further decomposed.

A mixture is a combination of substances held together by physical rather than chemical means.

A compound is a matter made up of elements which are chemically combined.

## **1692. MATTER, PROPERTIES**

**What are the properties of matter?**

These are:

- (1) physical properties which describe matter as it is; and
- (2) chemical properties which denote its reaction to combination with other substances.

## **1693. MATTER, STATES OF**

**What are the states of matter?**

There are three states, namely solids, liquids and gases.

A solid has definite volume and shape. A liquid has definite volume but no shape. A gas has no definite volume or shape.



#### **1694. MCMOHAN LINE**

**What is the McMohan line?**

It is the boundary between China and India.

#### **1695. M DAY**

**What is M Day?**

It is the Day of mobilisation.

#### **1696. MEDICI, DE**

**Who was Marie de Medici?**

Marie de Medici (1573—1642) was the Queen of France. She was the wife of Henry IV.

#### **1697. MEDITERRANEAN SEA**

**What are the particulars about the Mediterranean Sea?**

It is the largest inland sea in the world. It separates Europe from Africa. It is over 2000 miles long. Its area is 1,145,000 square miles. The greatest depth is 14000 ft. It was the centre of classical civilisation.

#### **1698. MEDITERRANEAN SEA-ISLANDS**

**Which are the main islands in the Mediterranean Sea?**

The main islands are Sicily, Crete, and Cyprus.

#### **1699. MEDITERRANEAN SEA-RIVERS**

**Which rivers flow into the Mediterranean Sea?**

The main rivers which flow into the Mediterranean Sea are, the Nile, the Ebro and the Rhone.

#### **1700. MEGAPHONE**

**What is a Megaphone?**

It is an instrument for carrying sound to long distances.



### 1701. MEIN-KAMNF

**What was Mein Kamnf?**

It was the biography of Herr Hitler the leader of Nazi Germany.

### 1702. MEKONG

**Where is the Mekong?**

It is a great river of South East Asia. It rises in Tibet and flows through China, Laos, Cambodia and South Vietnam to the South China Sea covering a course of 2600 miles.

### 1703. MELTING POINTS

**Give the melting points of some important metals?**

The melting points of some important metals are:

- |               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| (1) Aluminium | 659.8C |
| (2) Silver    | 960.5C |
| (3) Gold      | 1063 C |
| (4) Copper    | 1083 C |
| (5) Iron      | 1535 C |
| (6) Lead      | 327.4C |
| (7) Uungsten  | 3382 C |

### 1704. MELTING POINT, HIGHEST

**Which substance has the highest melting point?**

Carbon has the highest melting point 3500 C.

### 1705. MEMORY

**What is memory and how does it work?**

Memory is ability to retain in mind what is learnt and seen and to recall it in future.

All learning is based on memory. There are 10,000 memory cells in the human brain where information is stored.



## **1706. MEMPHIS**

**What was Memphis?**

It was the capital of ancient Egypt. It was 14 miles south of present Cairo. The city of Memphis was founded by the Phaorah Menes.

## **1707. MENTAL HOSPITAL, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest Mental Hospital in the world?**

It is the 'Pilgrim State Hospital' New York with 12000 beds.

## **1708. MERCERISATION**

**What is Mercerisation?**

It is a chemical process by which a silky lustre is given to cotton fabrics.

## **1709. MERCURY**

**Which is the metal which is liquid in form and where is it found?**

Mercury is the metal which is liquid in form. Its leading producers are Spain, Italy, Yugoslavia, and California.

## **1710. MERCURY MINE**

**Which is the largest mercury mine in the world?**

It is the mine at Al Maden in Spain.

## **1711. MERCURY-PLANET**

**What are the particulars about the planet Mercury?**

It is 3.6 crore miles from the sun. Its diameter is 3100 miles. The day on Mercury is equal to 59 days of the earth. Its year is equal to 88 days. On the side facing the sun the temperature is 500 C; on the other side the temperature is below the freezing point. The atmosphere is very thin, only a thousand part of the earth's surface.

## **1712. MERCURY, THERMOMETER**

**Why is mercury used in thermometers?**

It is so used because it is the only metal which is liquid. It reacts very quickly and evenly to changes in temperature.



### **1713. MERCY, QUALITY**

**According to Shakespeare what is the quality of mercy?**

According to Shakespeare—

“The quality of mercy is not strained,  
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven  
Upon the place beneath.”

### **1714. MERIDIAN**

**What is meridian?**

It is an imaginary line connecting the two poles.

### **1715. MERMAIDS**

**What are mermaids?**

These are legendary creatures with the face of a woman and the body of fish. These are really sea cows which look like human beings from a distance.

### **1716. MESNE PROFITS**

**In law what are mesne profits?**

This is an action against trespass, brought to recover profits derived from land whilst its possession has been improperly held.

### **1717. MESOZOIC ERA**

**In Geology what was the Mesozoic era?**

That was the age of dinosaurs and huge reptiles. It lasted from 200 million years ago to 75 million years ago.

### **1718. METABOLISM**

**What is metabolism?**

It denotes the chemical activities that take place in the cells of living organisms.

### **1719. METALLOIDS**

**What are metalloids?**

These are substances that partake of the characteristics of metals as well as that of non-metals such as silicon and arsenic.



## **1720. METAL HEAVIEST LIGHTEST**

**Among the metals which the heaviest and which is the lightest ?**

The heaviest is Osmium and the lightest is Lithium.

## **1721. METAL, MALLEABLE**

**Among the metals which is the most malleable ?**

The most malleable metal is gold.

## **1722. METAPHOR**

**What is a metaphor; give an example ?**

Metaphor is the transfer of a name or descriptive term to some object to which it is not properly applicable, thus making an implicit comparison.

Example: "Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested."

## **1723. METEOR**

**What is a meteor ?**

It is a body of matter travelling through space which becomes incandescent and visible when heated by friction with the atmosphere. The popular name is 'shooting star' or 'falling star'. It usually becomes luminous at a height of 90 miles and disappears at a height of 50 miles. It is not wholly consumed. It reaches the earth's surface as a meteorite.

## **1724. METEOROLOGY**

**What is Meteorology ?**

It is the study of the physical phenomena and processes at work in the atmosphere including their forecasting

## **1725. METHODOLOGY**

**What is Methodology ?**

It is the science that deals with the methods of scientific research.



## **1726. METROLOGY**

**What is Metrology?**

It is the scientific study of exact measurement.

## **1727. MICRO METEOROLOGY**

**What is Micro Meteorology?**

It is the study of the lowest layer of the atmosphere.

## **1728. MICRO-ORGANISMS**

**Which organisms are included in the term 'micro-organisms'?**

These are fungi, viruses, bacteria and protozoa.

## **1729. MICROSCOPE, POWERFUL**

**Where is the most powerful microscope in the world?**

It is in the National Scientific Research Centre, Toolous, France.

## **1730. MIDDLE AGES**

**According to European history which period is regarded as the Middle Ages?**

It is the period 400 to 1500 AD, the period between the fall of the Roman empire to the conquest of Constantinople by the Turks.

## **1731. MID OCEANIC RIDGE**

**What is the Mid Oceanic Ridge?**

It is a belt of sub-marine mountains midway between Europe and North America and Africa and South Africa. The ridge reaches the surface as islands or reefs such as Jan Mayen island; St. Paul Rocks; Bouvet Island; and Rodriguez Island.

## **1732. MILIEU**

**What is milieu?**

It is man's environments or surroundings.



### **1733. MILK**

**What does milk contain?**

It contains proteins, lactose, vitamins, finely divided fat and minerals dissolved in water. It possesses all body building materials and is a perfect food.

### **1734. MILK, FOOD VALUE**

**Why has milk a high food value?**

That is because it contains proteins as well as vitamins.

### **1735. MILK, PRODUCTION**

**What are the figures about the production of milk in leading countries?**

The figures in metric tons are : USSR 6 crore tons; USA 5.7 crore tons; France 2.4 crore tons; West Germany 2 crore tons; U.K. 1.2 crore tons.

### **1736. MILKY WAY**

**What is the Milky Way?**

It is the galaxy of stars of which the solar system is a part. These are 200 crore stars in the Milky Way. The galaxy makes one revolution in 20 crore years.

### **1737. MILLENNIUM**

**What is millennium?**

It is a period of a thousand years. According to the Christians it will be the period when Christ will be resurrected and will reign over the world for a period of 1000 years.

### **1738. MILL ON THE FLOSS**

**Who wrote the novel 'Mill on the Floss'?**

It was written by George Eliot.

### **1739. MILTON, JOHN**

**Who was John Milton?**

John Milton (1608—1674) was a great English poet. He wrote 'Paradise Lost', and 'Paradise Regained'.



#### **1740. MIND**

##### **What is Mind?**

It is the intellectual faculty in man, the organised totality of the psychical processes whereby a man becomes conscious of things around him.

#### **1741. MINE, DEEPEST**

##### **Which is the world's deepest mine?**

It is the East Rand Proprietary Mine at Bokaburg, Transvaal, Africa 11,246 ft deep.

#### **1742. MINE, IRON**

##### **Which is the largest iron mine in the world?**

It is the mine at Lebedinsky, USSR.

#### **1743. MINE, SILVER**

##### **Which is the largest silver mine in the world?**

It is the Sullivan mine at Kimberley, Canada.

#### **1744. MINERAL**

##### **What is a mineral?**

It is a substance obtained by mining.

#### **1745. MINERALS, MAIN**

##### **Which are the main minerals of the world?**

These are coal, petroleum, natural gas, diamonds, phosphates, potash, sulphur, salt, iron, manganese, chromium, nickel, tungsten, antimony, bauxite, copper, lead, zinc, tin, mercury, asbestos, silver, and gold.

#### **1746. MINERALS-TOPMOST PRODUCERS**

##### **Which countries are the top most producers of various minerals?**

These are: Aluminium USA; Chromite, Turkey; Coal, USA; Copper, USA, Gold, South Africa; Manganese, USSR; Petroleum USA; Silver, Mexico; Iron, USA.



## **1747. MINERALS, USE**

**How is the use of minerals distributed among the developed and developing countries?**

90 percent of the world's mineral production is used by developed countries which have hardly 30% of the world population.

## **1748. MINING**

**What is Mining?**

It is the process of the removing of minerals from underground.

## **1749. MIRAGE**

**What is mirage, and what is it due to?**

It is an optical illusion often observed in desert regions when the objects some distance away appear as if reflected from a pool of water. This is due to the unequal heating of the different parts of the atmosphere, which bends the light rays and so produces distorted images.

## **1750. MIRROR**

**What is a mirror. What does mirror literally mean?**

A mirror is a smooth and highly polished surface that can reflect light in such a way as to produce images or objects in front of it. The word 'mirror' literally means to wonder or admire.

## **1751. MISDEMEANOURS**

**What are misdemeanours?**

These are minor offences.

## **1752. MISSILES**

**What are missiles?**

These are objects intended to be thrown or projected such as bullets.

## **1753. MIST**

**What is mist?**

It is cloud at ground level.



#### **1754. MIXED ECONOMY**

**In economics what is mixed economy?**

It is the economic system in which there are some features of capitalism and some of socialism.

#### **1755. MODERN PERIOD**

**In European history what period is regarded as the modern period?**

It is the period since the 15th century.

#### **1756. MODUS OPERANDI**

**What is modus operandi?**

It is the method of working.

#### **1757. MOISTURE**

**Why does moisture gather on the outside of a glass tumbler?**

The water in the tumbler cools the glass. When the air near the tumbler comes in contact with the cooled glass the air is condensed. The condensed air forms moisture which is deposited on the outer side of the glass tumbler.

#### **1758. MOLLUSKS**

**What are Mollusks?**

These are creatures which have no bones.

#### **1759. MOMENTUM**

**In Physics what is momentum?**

It is the motion possessed by a moving body and is equal to the product of the mass and velocity of a body.

#### **1760. MONACO**

**What is Monaco?**

It is a tiny country in Europe covering an area of 6 square miles only.



## **1761. MONARCHIES**

**Which are the countries of the world which are monarchies?**

These are Great Britain; Belgium; Denmark; Spain; Netherlands; Norway; Sweden; Iran; Japan; Saudi Arabia; and Thailand.

## **1762. MONEY, DERIVATION**

**What is the derivation of the word 'money'?**

It is derived from 'Juno Moneto' the Roman goddess of warning. The Romans had their mint in her temple.

## **1763. MONOMANIA**

**What is monomania?**

It is an unreasonable interest in any particular thing.

## **1764. MONOMETER**

**What is Monometer?**

It is an instrument for measuring gaseous pressure.

## **1765. MONOPOLIES**

**What are natural, commercial, and state monopolies?**

Natural monopolies arise from the ownership of special skill or ability or the possession of the sole source of some mineral, animal, or vegetable wealth. Commercial monopolies arise through the centralisation of financial control over all sources of production of a commodity. State monopolies are created by law.

## **1766. MONROE DOCTRINE**

**What was the Monroe Doctrine?**

It was formulated by James Monroe President of USA 1817—  
25. It provided:

(1) No colonisation of American continent by European powers.

(2) America would not interfere in Europe, and Europe should not interfere in the American continents.



## **1767. MONSOONS**

**What are the Monsoons?**

These are winds that bring rain.

## **1768. MONTH, LONGEST NAME**

**Among the months in a year, which has the longest name?**

The month of September has the longest name.

## **1769. MONUMENT OF LONDON**

**What is the monument of London?**

It is 202 ft column in London which commemorates the Great Fire of London in 1666.

## **1770. MOON**

**What are the main particulars about the Moon?**

The moon is a satellite of the earth. It is 2,39,000 miles from the earth. Its diameter is 2160 miles. It orbits round the earth in 28/29 days at the speed of 2287 miles an hour. The moon turns the same face to the earth at all times. Day and night on the moon last for two weeks. There is no atmosphere on the moon. The sky looks black. Day temperature is 230 F and the night temperature is -238 F.

Man landed on the moon on 20th July 1969. Neil Armstrong the first man to step on the moon said "That's one small step for a man, but one giant leap for a mankind". On the surface of the moon there are plains strewn with boulders and pitted with craters. There are mountains the highest being 26000 ft. There is no water. Moon dust contains lustrous pieces of glass. There are frequent moonquakes on the surface. There is no life.

## **1771. MOON, CONTACT WITH THE EARTH**

**Why does a space vehicle on the other side of the moon lose contact with the earth?**

In space the electro magnetic waves travel in straight lines. When the space vehicle is on the other side of the moon the electro magnetic waves are obstructed by the moon and as such contact of the space vehicle with the earth is not maintained.



## **1772. MOON, SIDE**

**Why we can see only one side of the moon?**

The moon rotates round the earth as well as along its own axis. The time for both the rotations is the same and hence we see only one side of the moon.

## **1773. MOON, SURFACE TEMPERATURE**

**Why there are extremes of surface temperature on the moon?**

The surface of the moon is rocky and sandy. There is no air or atmosphere on the moon. There is also no water. Due to the absence of water and atmosphere when the sun shines the surface of the moon is heated to a great extent. When the sun sets the temperature falls abruptly. As such there are extremes of surface temperature.

## **1774. MOORS**

**Who were the Moors?**

They were the Muslims from Morocco who ruled over North West Africa. They conquered Spain in the 8th century.

## **1775. MORBIDITY**

**What is Morbidity?**

It is the liability to a particular disease not necessarily fatal.

## **1776. MORES**

**What are Mores?**

These are recognised principles of conduct in a social group.

## **1777. MORPHOLOGY**

**What is Morphology?**

It is the science which studies the form and structure of organisms..

## **1778. MORSE ALPHABET**

**What is the Morse alphabet?**

It is the system of dots and dashes used in telegraphy.



## **1779. MOSAIC**

**What is a mosaic?**

It is a picture or pattern made by fitting together small pieces of coloured stone, glass or tile.

## **1780. MOSCOW**

**What is the population of Moscow?**

According to the latest available figures the population of Moscow is 64 lakh.

## **1781. MOSES**

**When did the prophet Moses flourish?**

He flourished during the 15th century BC

## **1782. MOSQUITO, BITE**

**Why do mosquito bites itch?**

The mosquitoes which bite have some sharp piercing organs arranged around a sucking tube. When the mosquito bites it injects a poisonous liquid into the blood. This poison causes itching.

## **1783. MOSSES**

**What are mosses?**

These are plants that grow thick on moist ground forming a sort spongy carpet.

## **1784. MOTHER-OF-PEARL**

**What is mother-of-pearl?**

It is the inner lining of the shell of the pearl oyster.

## **1785. MOTIVE**

**What is Motive?**

It is a predisposition of an individual for certain activities for seeking certain ends.



### **1786. MOTOR CARS, NUMBER**

**What is the number of motor cars in the world and some important countries?**

The number is : World 16 crore; USA 8 crore; UK 1 crore; France 1 crore; West Germany 1 crore; Japan 38 lakh, USSR 12 lakh.

### **1787. MOTORWAYS**

**What are motorways?**

These are highways restricted to the use of motor vehicles. The densest network of motorways is in Germany where the motorways are known as autobahns.

### **1788. MOTTO**

**What motto did Quid-i-Azam preach?**

He preached the motto 'Unity, Discipline, and Faith.'

### **1789. MOTTO, ROTARY CLUB**

**What is the motto of the Rotary Club?**

Its motto is 'Service before self.'

### **1790. MOTTO, SCOUTS**

**What is the motto of the scouts?**

Their motto is 'Be prepared'.

### **1791. MOULTING**

**What is moulting?**

When an animal sheds its skin or feathers and replaces them, that is called 'moulting'. Amphibians, reptiles, birds, and some insects moult.

### **1792. MOUNTAINS, EXTENT**

**What part of the surface of the earth is covered with mountains?**

12 percent of the surface of the earth is covered with mountains.



### 1793. MOUNTAIN, HIGHEST

**Name the seven highest mountains of the world?**

These are :

- |                                 |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| (1) Mt. Everest                 | 29,028 ft. |
| (2) K2, Pakistan                | 28,250 ft. |
| (3) Kanchenjunga                | 28,146 ft. |
| (4) Mt. Mc. Kinley (N. America) | 23,320 ft. |
| (5) Acongua (South America)     | 22,976 ft. |
| (6) Kilimanjaro (Africa)        | 19,340.    |
| (7) Mt. Blanc, Europe           | 15,782.    |

### 1794. MOUNTAIN, LONGEST

**Which is the longest mountain range in the world?**

The longest mountain range is the Andes in South America 4500 miles long.

### 1795. MOUNTAINS, TYPES

**What are the types of mountains?**

There are two types, namely:

- (1) Tectonic mountains, which are due to accumulation or deformation of the earth's crust; and
- (2) Relict mountains, which are the remains of ancient elevated areas.

### 1796. MOUSTACHE, LONGEST

**What is the record for the longest moustache?**

Since 1972 the record is held by Masuriya Din of India whose moustaches measured  $8\frac{1}{2}$  ft.

### 1797. MOZART

**What is the basis of the fame of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart?**

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756—91) is regarded as the world's greatest musical genius.



## **1798. MOUNT EVEREST**

**When was Mt. Everest first climbed?**

It was first climbed at 11.30 A.M. on May 29, 1953 when the summit was reached by Edmund Percival Hillary of New Zealand and the Sherpa Tenzijg Norkhay.

## **1799. MUGHAL EMPERORS**

**Who were the Mughal emperors of the Indo-Pakistan sub-continent?**

These were:

- (1) Zaheeruddin Babar 1526—1539.
- (2) Naseeruddin Hamayun 1430—1556.
- (3) Jalaluddin Akbar 1556—1605.
- (4) Nuruddin Jahangir 1605—1627.
- (5) Shah Jahan 1627—1658.
- (6) Aurangzeb 1658—1707.
- (7) Shah Alam I 1707—1712.
- (8) Jahandar Shah 1712—1713.
- (9) Farrukh Siyar 1713—1719.
- (10) Muhammad Shah. 1719-1748
- (11) Ahmad Shah 1748—1754.
- (12) Alamgir II 1754—1759.
- (13) Shah Alam II. 1759—1806.
- (14) Akbar II 1806—1837.
- (15) Bahadur Shah 1837—1857.

## **1800. MUHAMMAD**

**When did the Holy Prophet of Islam Muhammad (peace be on him) flourish?**

He was born in 570 AD, and he died in 632 A.D.

## **1801. MULATTO**

**Who is a Mulatte?**

He is an off spring of union between white and negro parents.

## **1802. MULE**

**Of which animals is mule the offspring?**

It is the offspring of a male donkey and a female horse.



### **1803. MUMMY**

**In ancient Egypt what was a mummy?**

It was a dead body preserved from natural decay.

### **1804. MUNICH AGREEMENT**

**What was the Munich agreement?**

It was an agreement between Germany, France and U.K. agreeing to the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia to the advantage of Germany.

### **1805. MURDERER, FIRST**

**Who was the world's first murderer?**

Cain the son of Adam was the first murderer who killed his brother Abel.

### **1806. MUSCLES**

**What are the particulars about the muscles in the human body?**

The number of muscles in the human body is 639. The muscles are 40 percent of the total weight of the body. The buttock muscle which extends to the thigh is the largest. The 'Stapedius' which controls the middle ear is the smallest muscle.

### **1807. MUSHROOM**

**What are the peculiarities about the mushroom?**

It is a plant that is not green, and which has no roots, no stems, and no leaves.

### **1808. MUSEUM, AUTOMOBILE**

**Which is the largest museum of automobiles in the world?**

It is the Automobile Museum, Turin. Italy.

### **1809. MUSEUM, GEOLOGY**

**Which is the largest museum of Geology in the world?**

It is the State Museum of Geology and Mineralogy, Leyden, Netherlands.



### **1810. MUSEUM, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest museum in the world?**

It is the British Museum, London.

### **1811. MUSEUM, NATURAL HISTORY**

**Which is the largest museum of Natural History?**

It is the Natural History, Museum, Paris.

### **1812. MUSEUM, OCEANOGRAPHY**

**Which is the largest museum of Oceanography in the world?**

It is the Museum of Oceanography, Monaco.

### **1813. MUSEUM, OLDEST**

**Which is the oldest museum in the world?**

It is the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, established in 1679.

### **1814. MUSIC**

**What is Music?**

It is the art and science of arranging sounds in melodies and rhythms to give a desired pattern of effect of pleasing the aesthetic sense.

### **1815. MUSSOLINI, BENITO**

**Who was Benito Mussolini?**

Benito Mussolini (1883—1945) was the Fascist dictator of Italy from 1922 to 1945. He sided with Germany in the second world war. The defeat of the Italian arms in North Africa caused the collapse of his government. He was shot dead when attempting to cross to Switzerland in 1945.

### **1816. MUTATION**

**In Biology what is mutation?**

It is the sudden and accidental appearance of a new trait in a plant or animal.



## 1817. MYTH

**What is a myth?**

It is a narrative or tradition without historical or scientific basis embodying a popular idea regarding natural phenomena or historical events.

## 1818. MYSTICISM

**What is Mysticism?**

It is belief in the attainment through contemplation of truths inaccessible to the understanding.

## N

## 1819. NAIDU, SAROJINI

**Who was Sarojini Naidu?**

Sarojini Naidu (1879—1949) was a poet. Her well known books of verses are "The Golden Threshold" "The Bird of Time", and "The Broken Wing". She was the first woman to be the president of the Indian National Congress. After independence she was the Governor of the United Provinces when she died.

## 1820. NAILS

**Why does the cutting of nails not hurt us?**

The nails are special structures that grow from the skin. The nails are made from a substance called 'Keratin'. This is a tough dead form of protein, and a horn-like material. As the nail is not a part of the skin, and is dead material, its cutting does not hurt.

## 1821. NANGA PARBAT

**What is Nanga Parbat?**

It is the highest peak, 26,600 ft of the Himalayas in Pakistan.

## 1822. NANO SECOND

**In time measurement what is a Nano second?**

It is one billionth of a second.



## **1823. NAPLES**

**What does 'Naples' means?**

It is 'Nea Polis', i.e. a new city.

## **1824. NAPOLEON BONAPARTE**

**Who was Napoleon Bonaparte?**

Napoleon Bonaparte (1769—1821) was a great general. He rose to be the emperor of France. He conquered a greater part of Europe. He was ultimately defeated at the battle of Waterloo in 1815. He died in exile in St. Helena in 1821.

## **1825. NARRATIVE ART**

**What is the principle of narrative art?**

The principle is that every picture tells its story.

## **1826. NATION**

**What is a nation?**

It is a people inhabiting a country having their own government.

## **1827. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**What is the total number of seats in the National Assembly of Pakistan?**

The number of seats is 216—200 General; 10 women; and 6 minorities.

## **1828. NATIONAL EMBLEMS**

**Name the national emblems for some countries?**

These are: Pakistan: crescent; India: lion; USA: golden rod; Spain: eagle; Australia: Kangaroo.

## **1829. NATIONAL FLOWERS**

**Name the national flowers of some countries?**

These are: Pakistan: Jasmine; England: Rose; Egypt: Lotus; Greece: Laurel; Netherlands: Tulip; Poland: Cornflower; Japan: Chrysanthemum.



### **1830. NATIONAL GAMES**

**Name the national games of some countries?**

These are: Pakistan: Hockey; UK: Cricket; USA; Baseball; Spain: Bull-fighting; Japan: Jupustsu; Canada: Ice- hockey.

### **1831. NATIONAL PARK**

**What is a national park?**

It is an area set aside for the preservation of scenery, vegetation, wild life and historic objects in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for future generations both for scientific purposes and public enjoyment.

### **1832. NATIONALISATION**

**What is nationalisation?**

It is the taking over of any concern by the State.

### **1833. NATIVITY FESTIVALS**

**What are the nativity festivals of the Christians?**

These are:

- (1) 25th December on account of the birth of Jesus Christ;
- (2) 8th September on account of the birth day of Virgin Mary; and
- (3) 24th June on account of the birth day of John the Baptist.

### **1834. NATURAL GASES**

**What are natural gases?**

These are gaseous hydro-carbons in the form of ethane and methane found in the earth's crust frequently associated with petroleum.

### **1835. NATURAL HISTORY**

**What is Natural History?**

It is the out of door study of the habits, modes of life and activities of living things, both plants and animals.



### **1836. NATURAL JUSTICE**

**What are the main rules of the law of natural justice?**

The rules are:

- (1) that no one shall be condemned unheard; and
- (2) that no one shall be a judge in his own cause.

### **1837. NATURAL SELECTION**

**What is natural selection?**

It is the preservation by nature of types which are more suited than others to the particular environment available for them. Natural selection eliminates less suitable types.

### **1838. NATURALISATION**

**What is Naturalisation?**

It is a process whereby a foreigner acquires the citizenship of another country.

### **1839. NATURALISM**

**In literature what is Naturalism?**

It is the tendency to reproduce life exactly as it appears without idealisation.

### **1840. NAUSEA**

**What is nausea?**

It is a feeling of sickness and desire to vomit.

### **1841. NAUTICAL MILE**

**At the equator what is the length of the nautical mile?**

The length is 6046 feet.

### **1842. NAVIGATION**

**What is Navigation?**

It is the science of guiding ships or air planes from starting point to destination.



### **1843. NAVY, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest navy in the world?**

The USA Navy is the largest with a manpower of 623000 and marine strength of 212000.

### **1844. NEANDERTHAL MAN**

**Who was the Neanderthal man and when did he live?**

In 1856 the remains of some skeletons were dug from a limestone cave in the Neander Gorge in Germany. These were the first complete skeletons ever found of pre-historic men. These are referred to as Neanderthal men. They flourished about 70,000 years ago.

### **1845. NEAR EAST**

**Which countries are included in the term 'Near East'?**

These include Turkey; Syria; Palestine; Jordan; and Iraq.

### **1846. NECESSITY, VIRTUE OF**

**When do we make a virtue of necessity?**

That is when we do willingly what cannot be avoided.

### **1847. NECROMANCY**

**What is Necromancy?**

It is the branch of magic which professes to work through communication with the dead.

### **1848. NEHRU, JAWAHAR LAL**

**Who was Jawahar Lal Nehru?**

Jawahar Lal Nehru (1889—1964) was the Congress leader, and the first Prime Minister of India from 1947 to 1964.

### **1849. NEEDLE BEAM**

**What is a needle beam?**

It is a support used when the foundation of a wall or column needs attention.



### **1850. NELSON COLUMN**

**What is Nelson Column?**

It is 170 ft column in Trafalgar Square London erected to commemorate Nelson's victory over Napoleon at Trafalgar.

### **1851. NEOLITHIC AGE**

**What was the Neolithic age?**

It was the New Stone age which began about 6000 BC when Man learnt to grow crops.

### **1852. NEOLOGY**

**What is Neology?**

It is the introduction of new words in a language.

### **1853. NEON**

**What is Neon?**

It is an inert gas used in electric discharge lamps and for illuminated signs in different colours.

### **1854. NEPAL**

**What is the peculiarity about Nepal?**

It is the most mountainous country in the world.

### **1855. NEPHOSCOPE**

**What is a Nephoscope?**

It is an instrument for measuring speed and direction of cloud movement.

### **1856. NEPOTISM**

**What is Nepotism?**

It is the bestowal of patronage by reason of relationship rather than merit.

### **1857. NEPTUNE**

**What are the particulars about the planet Neptune?**

It is the 8th planet in the order of distance from the sun. It is 279.7 crore miles from the sun. Its diameter is 30,900 miles



and its mass is 17 times that of the earth. It completes its orbit round the sun in 164 days and 288 days of the earth time.

#### **1858. NERO**

**Who was Nero?**

He was the Roman emperor (37—68 AD). He fiddled when Rome burnt.

#### **1859. NERVE**

**What is a nerve?**

It is an anatomical structure whose special properties allow of transmission of impulses along its substance from brain to muscles.

#### **1860. NEUROLOGY**

**What is Neurology?**

It is the study of the brain and the nervous system and the diseases thereof.

#### **1861. NEUROSIS**

**What is Neurosis?**

It is mental disorder caused by worries.

#### **1862. NEUTRON**

**What is a neutron?**

It is one of the minute particles which make up the nucleus of an atom.

#### **1863. NEW DEAL**

**To what did 'New Deal' refer?**

It referred to the measures taken by President Roosevelt in 1933 in USA to overcome the economic crisis.

#### **1864. NEW TESTAMENT**

**What is the New Testament?**

It is a division of the Bible which records the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.



## 1865. NEWSPAPERS

**What are the main particulars about newspapers in the world?**

The total circulation of newspapers in the world is 34 crore. USSR is the country with the greatest number of newspapers, over 8000. The leading newspaper readers in the world are the Swedes where one newspaper is sold for every two persons. The 'Asashi Shimbun' of Japan has the largest circulation exceeding 1 crore.

## 1866. NEWSPAPERS FAMOUS

**Name of the famous newspapers of some countries?**

USA: New York Times; Herald Tribune; Sun; New York Mirror.

UK: Daily Mirror; Daily Express; Daily Mail; Daily Telegraph; Times; Guardian.

USSR: Pravda; Izvestiya.

India: Indian Express; Times of India; Hindusthan Times; Tribune; Hindu.

Pakistan: Pakistan Times; Dawn; Sun; Jang; Mashriq; Nawai Waqt; Hurriyat.

Turkey: Hurriyat; Jamhuriat.

Iran: Ettleat; Kayhan.

Indonesia: Berita Yudha; Kompas.

China: Jen-minjih. Pao; Kuang-mong Jih-Pao.

Japan: Ashai Shimbun; Xomiuri Shimbun.

## 1867. NEWTON

**Who was Isaac Newton?**

Isaac Newton (1642—1727) was a great scientist. He discovered the law of gravitation.

## 1868. NEW YORK

**Which are the rivers that flow in the city of New York?**

These are the East river, and the Hudson river.

## 1869. NIAGARA

**How much water falls from the Niagara Falls every minute, and what does 'Niagara' actually mean?**

The water which falls every minute amounts to 4,65,000 tons. 'Niagara' means 'thunder of water'.



### **1870. NIETZSCHE**

**Who was Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche?**

Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche (1844—1900) was a German philosopher. He developed the theory of 'superman'. His works include 'Beyond Good and Evil', and 'The Will to Power'.

### **1871. NIGER**

**Where is the Niger?**

It is a river of Africa. It rises in the highlands on the borders of Sierra Leone and falls in the Gulf of Guinea after covering a course of 2600 miles.

### **1872. NIGHT CLUB**

**Which is the largest night club in the world?**

It is in the Concord Hotel, New York with a capacity of 3000 guests.

### **1873. NIGHTINGALE, FLORENCE**

**Who was Florence Nightingale?**

Florence Nightingale (1820—1910) was an English nurse and hospital reformer usually referred to as 'the Lady with the Lamp'.

### **1874. NILE**

**What are the particulars about the river Nile?**

It is the longest river of the world, its course being 3090 miles. It rises from Lake Victoria and flows into the Mediterranean Sea.

### **1875. NILE, RIDDLE OF**

**What is the riddle of the Nile?**

The riddle is that there is no rainfall in Egypt, and yet the level of the Nile rises in the summer and deposits fertile silt along its course. The answer to the riddle is that such rise is because of the rains thousands of miles away from Egypt.

### **1876. NINE**

**What is the peculiarity about the digit 'Nine'?**

The peculiarity is that if any number is multiplied by nine, the



sum of the digits in the product will always be nine. For example 9 multiplied by 4 is 36 and 3 and 6 when added make nine.

### **1877. NINE DAYS WONDER**

**What is Nine Days wonder?**

It is something that causes sensational wonder for a few days and is thereafter forgotten.

### **1878. NINEVAH**

**What was Ninevah?**

It was the capital of the ancient Assyrian kingdom. It was situated on the Upper Tigris opposite modern Mosul in Iraq.

### **1879. NITRIC ACID**

**What is the common name for Nitric Acid?**

The common name is Aqua Fortis.

### **1880. NISI**

**In law what is 'Nisi'?**

It is a decree or order of a court passed when the party has failed to show cause against the order.

### **1881. NIZAMI**

**Who was Nizami?**

Nizami (d 1217) was a great Persian poet. He is regarded as the dramatist of love and life. His 'love romances' have all the qualities of great dramatic work of the world.

### **1882. NO BALL**

**In Cricket, what is no ball?**

It is no ball if it is either thrown or jerked or if the bowler delivers the ball with his both feet either touching or crossing the bowling crease.

### **1883. NOBEL**

**Who was Alfred Nobel?**

Alfred Nobel (1833—96) was a Swedish scientist. He invented gun powder. He established a trust out of his income from which Nobel prizes are awarded every year for research work in science.



#### **1884. NOBEL PRIZES**

**What are the Nobel Prizes?**

These prizes were instituted in 1901 by the Swedish scientist Dr. Alfred Nobel. Five prizes are awarded every year for physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and for promotion of world peace. Each prize amounts to 10,000 pounds.

#### **1885. NOBLE METALS**

**Which metals are called noble metals and why are they so called?**

Gold and platinum are known as noble metals. These are so called as they do not combine with other metals.

#### **1886. NOISE**

**When is noise produced?**

Noise is produced when a large number of waves of sound get mixed up.

#### **1887. NOME DEPLUME**

**What is nome de plume?**

It is an assumed title or pen name.

#### **1888. NOMOLOGY**

**What is Nomology?**

It is the science which studies general principles and formulates laws.

#### **1889. NON-CONFORMITY**

**What is Non-conformity?**

It is dissent from the practices and doctrines of the established Church.

#### **1890. NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY**

**What is the non-proliferation treaty?**

It is an agreement reached at international level in 1968 designed to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons to nations that do not already possess them.



## **1891. NORTH POLE**

**Who was the first man to reach the North Pole?**

The first man to reach the North Pole was Robert E. Pearey in 1909.

## **1892. NORTH WEST PASSAGE**

**What is the north west passage?**

It is a sea route along the north coast of North America between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

## **1893. NOSE**

**Why does the nose run when one cries?**

By crying the muscles around the tear glands compress and the liquid is squeezed through the eyes as well as the nose.

## **1894. NOSOLOGY**

**What is Nosology?**

It is the scientific classification of diseases.

## **1895. NOSOPHOBIA**

**What is Nosophobia?**

It is the morbid dread of some particular disease.

## **1896. NOTARY**

**Who is a notary?**

He is a law agent who attests or certifies documents.

## **1897. NOVA**

**What is a Nova?**

It is a star that explodes, becomes very bright for a time and then fades again.

## **1898. NUCLEAR FISSION**

**What is nuclear fission?**

It is the splitting of the nucleus of an atom.



## **1899. NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY**

### **What is the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty?**

It is a treaty signed in 1968 by USSR, UK, and USA seeking to prohibit the nuclear powers from giving nuclear weapons and technical know how about their manufacture to any other power.

## **1900. NUCLEAR PHYSICS**

### **What are the important landmarks in the development of nuclear physics?**

The landmarks are:

- (1) In 1911 Rutherford demonstrated that the atom was constituted of electrons revolving around a positive nucleus.
- (2) In 1913 Bohr showed how an atom could radiate and absorb energy in the same way as the stars.
- (3) Einstein announced his theory of relativity in 1924, and formulated the principles of quantum mechanics.
- (4) In 1929 the theory was propounded that the universe was expanding.
- (5) In 1938 the theory was formulated about the generation of stellar energy.
- (6) In 1939 it was established that Hydrogen is the most abundant element in the Universe.
- (7) In 1948 the theory was announced of the continuous creation of the fundamental particles of matter.

## **1901. NUCLEONICS**

### **What is Nucleonics?**

It is the application of Nuclear Science and techniques to fields of Physics, Chemistry and other sciences.

## **1902. NUMISMATICS**

### **What is Numismatics?**

It is the science of coins.

## **1903. NUREMBURG TRIALS**

### **What were the Nuremburg trials?**

These were the trials of 24 Nazi leaders after the second world war.



#### **1904. NURSING**

**What is nursing?**

It is tending the sick and the injured.

#### **1905. NUT**

**Which nut grows underground?**

Groundnut grows underground.

#### **1906. NUTRITION**

**What is Nutrition?**

It is the series of processes by which an organism takes in food, assimilates it, and turns it into usable material for growth and energy.

#### **1907. NYLON**

**What is Nylon?**

It is a generic name for a class of polymers which can be spun into silk-like fibres.

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#### **1908. OATH OF OFFICE**

**What is an oath of office?**

It is a solemn declaration of the intention to fulfil the obligations of office.

#### **1909. OB**

**Where is the Ob river?**

It is a river of Asiatic Russia. It rises in the Altai mountains and flows into the Arctic Ocean after a course of 3460 miles. It is the widest river in the world, at places the width being 25 miles.

#### **1910. OBESITY**

**What is Obesity?**

It is unusual fatness.



## **1911. OBITER DICTUM**

### **What is Obiter Dictum?**

It is a passing remark in a judgment of a court which is not legally binding.

## **1912. OBSERVATORY**

### **What is an Observatory? Name some important observatories?**

An Observatory is an institution for the observation and study of astronomical phenomena.

Some of the important observatories are: Greenwich Observatory, London; Paris Observatory; Vienna University Observatory; Mt. Palomer Observatory, USA.

## **1913. OBSERVATORY, HIGHEST**

### **Which is the highest observatory in the world?**

It is the Mauna Kea Observatory, Hawaii, 13824 ft.

## **1914. OBSERVATION**

### **What is Observation?**

It is a careful and attentive examination of any phenomena or object with a view to clearer knowledge.

## **1915. OBSERVING**

### **What is Observing?**

It is the process of knowing the environment by means of the senses.

## **1916. OBSESSION**

### **What is Obsession?**

It is some persistent and irrational idea, usually unpleasant that comes into consciousness and cannot be banished.

## **1917. OBSTETRICS**

### **What is Obstetrics?**

It is specialised branch of Medical Science concerned with the care of mother and child before birth, at birth, and after birth.



## **1918. OCEAN**

**What is the total area and volume of water in the oceans and seas of the world?**

The total area is 140,482,400 square miles.  
The volume is 328,833,800 cubic miles.

## **1919. OCEAN CABLES**

**When were cables first laid out under the ocean?**

The cables were first laid out under the ocean on July 27, 1966 from Newfoundland off Canada to Valencia Island off Ireland.

## **1920. OCEAN DEPTH-GREATEST**

**Which is the greatest ocean depth?**

The greatest depth is 36,198 feet at the Phillipines Deep, Pacific Ocean.

## **1921. OCEANS, SALT**

**If all the water in the oceans evaporated what would be the dimensions of salt?**

It would have bulk fifteen times the continent of Europe.

## **1922. OCEANOGRAPHY**

**What is Oceanography and what is its importance?**

It is the science of the study of oceans. The oceans occupy 72 percent of the earth's surface. The oceans modify the climate by exercising a warming effect in the winter and a cooling effect in the summer. Economically the oceans provide fish, salt, sponges and other economic products.

The oceans act as great highways for international commerce and provide the cheapest form of bulk transport.

The tides in the oceans offer great potential source of energy, which could be harnessed to produce power,

## **1923. OCTAVES, LAW OF**

**In Chemistry what is the law of Octaves?**

The law is that if the various elements are tabulated in the order of their atomic weight, every eighth element will have similar chemical properties.



## **1924. OCULOGYRAL ILLUSION**

**What is Oculogyral illusion?**

The illusion is that when a man takes a turning he sees objects to be moving in the same direction in which he seems to be turning. The imbalance is caused because of the semi-circular canals of the ear.

## **1925. ODER**

**Where is the Oder river?**

It is a river of Europe. It rises in Czechoslovakia, and falls in the Baltic Sea after a course of 500 miles.

## **1926. OEDIPUS COMPLEX**

**What is Oedipus Complex?**

It is attachment to a parent of the opposite sex, son to a mother, daughter to a father.

## **1927. OERSTED**

**Who was Hans Christian Oersted?**

Hans Christian Oersted showed in 1820 the relationship between magnetism and electricity. He discovered that a magnetic needle is deflected by an electric current.

## **1928. OGDENSBURG AGREEMENT**

**What is the Ogdensburg agreement?**

It is a pact signed between U.S.A. and Canada in 1941 according to which they have established a joint board of defence.

## **1929. OHM'S LAW**

**In electricity, what is Ohm's law?**

The law is that the ratio of the potential difference between the ends of conductor and the current flowing in the conductor is constant.

## **1930. OIL COMPANY, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest oil company in the world?**

It is the Standard Oil Company, New Jersey, USA.



### **1931. OIL, CONSUMPTION**

**What is the annual consumption of oil in the world?**

It is about 1000 million tons.

### **1932. OILFIELD, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest oilfield in the world?**

It is the oil field of Oktyabrskiy, USSR extending over an area of 1800 square miles.

### **1933. OIL-FLOAT**

**Why does oil float on the surface of water?**

Oil is not soluble in water and maintains its identity, and being lighter than water rises to the surface to float.

### **1934. OIL, MINERAL**

**What does mineral oil consist of and how is it derived?**

The mineral oils consist of hydrocarbons and are derived from the decomposition of organic matter in rocks and are represented by petroleum and its derivatives.

### **1935. OIL REFINERY, LARGEST**

**Which is the world's largest oil refinery?**

It is the refinery at Abadan, Persia.

### **1936. OIL RESERVES**

**What are the estimated oil reserves in the world?**

The reserves are estimated at 2 crore million gallons. The daily consumption is 2 crore gallons. The reserves are thus estimated to last for about 30 years only.

### **1937. OLD TESTAMENT**

**What is Old Testament?**

It is a division of the Bible which records Jewish history from the beginning upto the time of Jesus Christ.



### **1938. OLDEST LIVING THINGS**

**Which are the oldest living things in the world?**

These are the Redwood trees of America many of which are over 5000 years old.

### **1939. OLYMPIC GAMES**

**Since world war II, where have the Olympic games been held?**

These have been held as follows:

London 1948; Helsinki 1952; Melbourne 1956; Rome 1960; Tokyo 1964; Mexico 1968; Munich 1972; and Montreal 1976.

### **1940. OLYMPIC GAMES, SYMBOL**

**What do the five rings in the symbol of the Olympic games stand for?**

The five rings stand for five continents.

### **1941. OLYMPIC MOTTO**

**What is the Olympic motto?**

The motto is "Always fastest; always highest; and always strongest".

### **1942. OLYMPUS**

**What is the Olympus?**

It is the highest mountain of Greece in Macedonia near the Augean Sea. The summit is 9600 feet.

### **1943. OMAR KHAYYAM**

**Who was Omar Khayyam?**

Omar Khayyam (1050—1123) was a Persian poet, mathematician and astronomer. His 'Rubaiyat' have been translated into English by Fitz-Gerald.

### **1944. ONEGA**

**What is Onega?**

It is a lake of USSR. It is connected by canals with the White Sea and the Gulf of Finland.



## **1945. ONEIROLOGY**

**What is Oneirology?**

It is the study of dreams.

## **1946. ONEIROMANCY**

**What is Oneiromancy?**

It is divination by means of dreams.

## **1947. ONIONS**

**Why are onions colourless?**

All colours are derived from the rays of the sun. The onions grow underground and are not exposed to the rays of the sun. Because of the absence of such exposure the onions remain colourless.

## **1948. ONTOLOGY**

**What is Ontology?**

It is the branch of Metaphysics which studies the problems of the nature of existence.

## **1949. OPACITY**

**In the case of a paint what is opacity?**

It is the ability of the paint to cover a surface.

## **1950. OPAL**

**In the case of an opal what is the play of colours due to?**

It is due to reflection and diffraction of light from thin Laminae.

## **1951. OPEN DOOR POLICY**

**What is the open door policy?**

It is the policy of trading with all nations on equal terms.

## **1952. OPERA**

**What is an Opera?**

It is a drama set to music.



### **1953. OPHTHALMOLOGIST**

**Who is an Ophthalmologist?**

He is a doctor who diagnoses and treats diseases and defects of the eyes.

### **1954. OPHTHALMOSCOPE**

**What is an Ophthalmoscope?**

It is an instrument for examining eyes.

### **1955. OPTICAL ILLUSION**

**What is an optical illusion?**

It is a trick that our eyes play on us. We seem to see something that is not really so, or we see the same object in two completely different ways.

### **1956. OPTICIAN**

**Who is an optician?**

He is a person who makes and sells glasses for eyes.

### **1957. OPTICS**

**What is Optics?**

It is the science which investigates the nature and properties of light and the phenomena of colour.

### **1958. ORANG OUTANG**

**What is Orang Outang?**

It is an ape of Borneo and Sumatra.

### **1959. ORDNANCE**

**What weapons are included in the generic name 'ordnance'?**

It is a term for weapons of 1 inch calibre and over.

### **1960. ORGAN**

**What is an organ?**

An organ is an aggregation of tissues all of which cooperate in the performance of a group function.



## **1961. OROGRAPHY**

**What is Orography?**

It is the study of the relief of mountain systems.

## **1962. ORTHOPAEDICS**

**What is Orthopaedics?**

It is the branch of surgery which concerns itself with the diagnosis and treatment of injuries, deformities and diseases of the bones, joints, muscles and nerves.

## **1963. OSAKA**

**Where is Osaka?**

It is an important industrial city of Japan.

## **1964. OSIRIS**

**According to mythology who was Osiris?**

He was the god of ancient Egypt.

## **1965. OSLO**

**Where is Oslo?**

It is the capital of Norway.

## **1966. OSTEOLOGY**

**What is Osteology?**

It is the science of the study of bones.

## **1967. OSTRICH**

**What are the peculiarities of an ostrich?**

It is the largest bird. It can run fast but it cannot fly.

## **1968. OTTAWA**

**Where is Ottawa?**

It is the capital of Canada.



### **1969. OTTOMAN**

**Why were the Turkish kings known as Ottomans?**

They were so called because they were the descendants of Othman (1259—1326).

### **1970. OUTER SPACE TREATY**

**What is the Outer Space Treaty?**

It is a code of conduct approved by the UN General Assembly in December 1966 and signed by the major nations.

It provides that no state would claim sovereignty over space and the planets, that all states would be free to investigate celestial bodies and approach them; that the exploration of outer space would be carried out in the interests of the whole humanity.

### **1971. OVER**

**In Cricket what is an Over?**

It is a bowling comprising six deliveries.

### **1972. OVID**

**Who was Ovid?**

He was a great Roman poet (43 BC-17 AD).

### **1973. OX-BOW LAKE**

**What is an ox-bow lake?**

It is a lake which is formed when a meandering river, bent almost in a complete circle, takes a new and quicker path, leaving a backwater.

### **1974. OXALIC ACID**

**How is Oxalic acid prepared commercially?**

It is prepared commercially by fusing saw dust with a mixture of caustic soda and potash.

### **1975. OXFORD UNIVERSITY**

**What are the particulars about the Oxford University?**

It is the oldest residential University in England. There are 21 colleges for men and five colleges for women attached to the University.



## **1976. OXIDATION**

**In Chemistry what is oxidation?**

It is the chemical union of any substance with Oxygen.

## **1977. OXYGEN**

**What is the percentage of Oxygen in the crust of the earth?**

Oxygen forms 46.5 percent of the earth's crust.

## **1978. OZONE**

**What is Ozone used for?**

It is a powerful oxidising agent; it bleaches vegetable dyes, destroys organic matter, and is used on a large scale in purifying drinking water.

# **P**

## **1979. PACIFIC OCEAN**

**What are the main particulars about the Pacific Ocean?**

It is the largest ocean. It extends from the west coast of America to the east coast of Asia and Australia. Its area is 6.8 lakh square miles. Length north to south is 8000 miles; length east to west is 10000 miles. Average depth is 12560 feet. The greatest depth is 36198 feet at Mariana Trench, Phillipines.

## **1980. PAGAN**

**Who is a pagan?**

He is a person who does not worship God.

## **1981. PAIN**

**What is pain?**

It is a composition of unpleasant sensations picked up by the nerve endings in the skin. The sensations are carried through the spinal chord to the brain when the feeling of pain is caused.

## **1982. PAINTING, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest painting in history?**

The largest painting was "The Panorma of the Mississipi".



drawn by an American John Banvard in 1846. Its area was one and a half acre. It was 5000 ft long, and 12 feet wide.

### **1983. PALACE**

**Which is the largest residential palace in the world?**

*It is the Vatican Palace, Rome with 1400 rooms covering an area of 132 acres.*

### **1984. PALEZOIC ERA**

**In Geology what was the palezoic era?**

Its period was 500 million years ago to 200 million years ago. Higher types of animals appeared in the sea during the period.

On land, it was the age of the reptiles.

### **1985. PALEOGRAPHY**

**What is Paleography?**

It is the science of deciphering ancient writings.

### **1986. PALEONTOLOGY**

**What is Paleontology?**

It is the science of the study of fossils.

### **1987. PALTINOLOGY**

**What is Paltynology?**

It is the science of pollen analysis.

### **1988. PALL MALL**

**What is Pall Mall?**

It is a street in London noted for its clubs.

### **1989. PALM TREE**

**Why is the palm tree so named?**

It is so named because its leaves are spread like the palm of a hand.



### **1990. PAMIRS**

**What are the Pamirs?**

These are a mountain complex in Central Asia where the Karakoram, the Hindu Kush and the Tien Shan ranges meet.

### **1991. PAMPAS**

**What are the Pampas?**

These are vast rolling plains in Argentina.

### **1992. PANAMA CANAL**

**What are the main particulars about the Panama Canal?**

The Panama canal is the canal that connects the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans. It was officially opened on June 12, 1920. It is 50 miles long. It has 12 locks. The width is 300 to 1000 ft. The minimum depth is 41 ft. The average time of passage is 7-8 hours.

### **1993. PANORAMA**

**What is panorama?**

It is an outline sketch of a piece of country as viewed from some prominent point.

### **1994. PANTOGRAPH**

**What is Pantograph?**

It is an instrument for enlarging or reducing a map.

### **1995. PAPER TIGER**

**Who is a paper tiger?**

He is a person who affects to be powerful, but is actually powerless.

### **1996. PARABLE**

**What is a parable?**

It is a short simple story, usually of an occurrence of a familiar kind from which a moral or religious lesson may be drawn.



## **1997. PARABOLA**

**In Geometry what is a parabola?**

It is a plain curve which is the path or locus of a moving point that remains equally distant from a fixed point (focus) and from a fixed straight line.

## **1998. PARACHUTE**

**What is a parachute?**

It is an umbrella shaped safety device used in emergency by the crew and passengers of an air craft.

## **1999. PARADOX**

**What is a paradox?**

It is a figure of speech where a statement is made which at first sight appears to be contradictory such as "Child is the father of man".

## **2000. PARAGON**

**What is paragon?**

It is a model of perfection.

## **2001. PARALLAX**

**What is parallax?**

It is a change in the direction of a body caused by a change in position of the observer.

## **2002. PARA MAGNETICS**

**Which substances are para magnetics?**

These are substances with weak magnetic properties. These include manganese, aluminium, and platinum.

## **2003. PARA TROOPS**

**What are para troops?**

These are air borne troops landed by parachutes.



#### **2004. PARANOIA**

**What is paranoia?**

It is a mental disorder characterised by delusions of persecution.

#### **2005. PARENTHESIS**

**What is parenthesis?**

It is an additional word or clause placed as an explanation or comment within an already complete sentence.

#### **2006. PARK, MUNGO**

**Who was Mungo Park?**

Mungo Park 1771—1806 was an African explorer. He explored the river Niger in 1776.

#### **2007. PARKINSON DISEASE**

**What is Parkinson disease?**

It is a degenerative disease characterised by a rhythmic tremor of the body.

#### **2008. PARLIAMENT, BRITISH**

**What is the strength of the British Parliament?**

The British Parliament comprises two houses, namely;

- (1) House of Commons with a strength of 630 members; and
- (2) House of Lords with a strength of 900 members.

#### **2009. PARLIAMENTS, NAME**

**By what name is the parliament known in various countries?**

It is known as-Japan: Diet; Iran: Majlis; Sweden: Riksdag; Norway: Storting; Denmark: Folketing; Israel: Knesset; Spain: Cortes; Iceland: Althing; Ireland: Dail; USA: Congress; USSR; Supreme Soviet; Poland: Sejm; Pakistan: National Assembly; UAR: Darul Awam.

#### **2010. PARSEC**

**What is a parsec?**

It is a unit of distance used by astronomers for expressing distance between stars. A parsec is equivalent to about  $3\frac{1}{4}$  light years.



## **2011. PARTICULARISM**

**According to the Calvinists what is particularism?**

It is a doctrine that redemption is possible only for particular persons, and not for all.

## **2012. PAR VALUE**

**In the case of a stock what is the par value?**

It is the face value or the value fixed at the time of its issue.

## **2013. PASCAL'S LAW**

**What is Pascal's Law?**

The law is that if external force is applied to a confined liquid or fluid the pressure will increase at every point in the fluid by an amount equivalent to the external pressure applied.

## **2014. PASSION**

**What is passion?**

It is a violent emotional outbreak.

## **2015. PASTEUR**

**How did Pasteur sum up his philosophy?**

He summed up his philosophy as follows:

"I am utterly convinced that science and peace will triumph over ignorance and war, that nations will eventually unite not to destroy but to edify, and that the future will belong to those who have done the most for the sake of suffering humanity.

## **2016. PASTEURIZATION**

**What is pasteurization?**

It is the process of treating milk by heating it and rapidly cooling it, killing the harmful bacteria.

## **2017. PASTEURIZED MILK**

**How is milk pasteurised?**

Milk is pasteurised by heating it to a temperature of about 62°C and maintaining that temperature for some time to kill the bacteria which cause the milk to go sour or produce disease.



## **2018. PATENT LEATHER**

**How is patent leather made?**

It is made by covering the leather with varnish.

## **2019. PATENT MEDICINE**

**What is patent medicine?**

It is a trademarked medical preparation that can be bought without a physician's inscription.

## **2020. PATHETIC FALLACY**

**In literature what is pathetic fallacy?**

It is the device of portraying inanimate nature as having human feelings and character such as the angry sea.

## **2021. PATHOLOGY**

**What is Pathology?**

It is the branch of medicine that deals with the nature of disease.

## **2022. PATRICIANS**

**In Rome who were the Patricians?**

They were those who were rich and wealthy.

## **2023. PAULI EXCLUSION PRINCIPLE**

**What is the Pauli Exclusion principle?**

The principle is that no two electrons can occupy the same orbit in the electron structure of an atom.

## **2024. PEAK LOAD**

**In a power house what is the peak load?**

It is the greatest amount of electricity which the power house can supply.

## **2025. PEAR**

**What are the peculiarities of the pear tree?**

Among the trees which bear fruit, the pear tree bears fruit for the longest period.



## **2026. PEDAGOGY**

### **What is Pedagogy ?**

It is the art or profession of teaching.

## **2027. PEDOLOGY**

### **What is Padology ?**

It is the science which studies soils, their origins, properties and uses.

## **2028. PEDIATRICS**

### **What is Pediatrics ?**

It is the branch of medicine dealing with the development and care of infants and children.

## **2029. PEDICULOSIS**

### **What is Pediculosis ?**

It is infestation with lice.

## **2030. PEDIGREE**

### **What is pedigree ?**

It is record of ancestry.

## **2031. PEKING MAN**

### **Who was Peking Man ?**

Fossil remains of the primitive man who lived 2 lakh years ago have been found in Peking. These fossils are referred to as Peking man.

## **2032. PENINSULA**

### **What is a peninsula ?**

It is an elongated projection of land in the sea or ocean.

## **2033. PENINSULAR WAR**

### **What was the Peninsular war ?**

It was the war which lasted from 1808 to 1814. It was fought in Spain and Portugal by the British, Spanish and Portugese forces against the French. The French were defeated in the war.



**2034. P. E. N.**

**What is PEN?**

It is International Association of Poets, Playwrights, Editors, Essayists and Novelists.

**2035. PENAL CODE**

**What is a penal Code?**

It is a body of law dealing with various crimes or offences and their punishment

**2036. PENOLOGY**

**What is Penology?**

It is the study of the reformation and rehabilitation of criminals.

**2037. PENUMBRA**

**In a shadow what is the penumbra?**

It is the lighter or the outer portion of the shadow.

**2038. PEPPER**

**Which country is the largest producer of pepper?**

Indonesia is the largest producer of pepper.

**2039. PERCEPTION**

**What is Perception?**

It is the process of knowing objects and objective facts on the basis of stimuli from the objects which affect the senses.

**2040. PERIGEE**

**When is the sun or the moon said to be in perigee?**

They are said to be so when they are at the least distance from the earth.

**2041. PERSIAN GULF**

**What is the Persian Gulf?**

It is an arm of the Indian Ocean between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula. It is known for its oppressively hot and humid summer climate and its pearl fisheries. It is a traffic lane for tankers carrying petroleum from Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia.



## **2042. PERSONAL EQUATION**

**What is personal equation?**

It is a tendency to error or prejudice due to personal characteristics for which allowance must be made.

## **2043. PERSONALITY**

**What is Personality?**

It is a sum total of effects which a persons' traits produce on others.

## **2044. PETALS**

**How do the petals of a flower advertise their nectar to the bees?**

They do so by their fragrance, form and colour.

## **2045. PETROLEUM**

**What does 'Petroleum' literally mean, and how is it formed in nature?**

Petroleum literally means 'rock oil'. It is formed from plants and animals that lived ages ago in and around warm seas. As the animals and plants died they piled up on the sea bottom. These were later covered with sand and mud. Under pressure these were converted to rocks and the plants and animals were turned to dark liquid trapped in the pores of the rocks.

## **2046. PETROLEUM, CONSUMPTION**

**What are the figures of the consumption of petroleum in some major countries?**

In 1968 the total consumption in the world was 1774 million tons. Country wise figures were USA: 601 million tons; USSR: 300 m.t Japan: 119 m.t; UK: 83 m.t; France: 6 m.t.

## **2047. PETROLEUM, PRODUCTS**

**What are the main products of petroleum?**

These are petrol; Kerosene oil; wax and coal tar.



#### **2048. PETROL FIRE**

**Why a petrol fire cannot be extinguished by throwing water on it?**

The heat of the petrol fire is so intense that water is decomposed when thrown on it, and hence water is not effective in extinguishing it.

#### **2049. PHILATELY**

**What is Philately?**

It is stamp collection.

#### **2050. PHARMACOLOGY**

**What is Pharmacology?**

It is the science of drugs.

#### **2051. PHENOLOGY**

**What is Phenology?**

It is the scientific study of the effects of seasonal climatic change upon recurring natural phenomena such as bird migration and flowering of vegetation.

#### **2052. PHILOSOPHER, FIRST**

**Who was the first person to be called a philosopher?**

Pythagoras was the first person to be called a philosopher.

#### **2053. PHNOM PENH**

**Where is Phnom Penh?**

It is the capital of Cambodia.

#### **2054. PHOENIX**

**What is the legend of the Phoenix?**

The Phoenix was a bird which died in fire, but came out of the flames alive. It was a large eagle like bird with gold feathers and lived for hundreds of years. When about to die it built a nest of scented branches of trees and sang a sad song. The nest caught fire because of the song. The phoenix died in the fire, but a new phoenix arose from its ashes.



## **2055. PHILOSOPHY**

### **What is Philosophy?**

It is the branch of learning which investigates the ultimate nature of existence.

## **2056. PHOENICIANS**

### **Who were the Phoenicians?**

They were the ancient people of the eastern coast of the Mediterranean.

## **2057. PHONETICS**

### **What is Phonetics?**

It is the study of the phenomena of the vocal sounds of a language.

## **2058. PHOSPHORUS**

### **Why is phosphorus always kept under water?**

Phosphorus in the air catches fire reacting with Oxygen. It is insoluble in water and when immersed in water it does not react with the atmospheric Oxygen.

## **2059. PHOSPHORESCENCE**

### **What is Phosphorescence?**

It is the giving off of light without the accompaniment of heat as a result of exposure to radiation from another source with the emission continuing after the exposure.

## **2060. PHOTONS**

### **What are photons?**

When light behaves like a stream of particles and not like waves the particles are called photons.

## **2061. PHOTOSPHERE**

### **What is photosphere and what is it composed of?**

It is the visible surface of the sun and the source of most of the light and heat radiated from that body. It is composed of highly



incandescent vapours which float on the less luminous gases forming the body of the sun.

## **2062. PHOTOSYNTHESIS**

### **What is Photosynthesis?**

It is the process by which green plants make food for themselves and indirectly for animals and human beings. In this process the plants combine water and salts in the soil and carbon dioxide in the air to build up organic compounds such as sugar, starch and proteins.

## **2063. PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY**

### **What is Physical Geography?**

It is a study that deals with those aspects of geography which are concerned with the shape and form of the land surface, the configuration, extent and nature of the seas and oceans and the atmosphere.

## **2064. PHYSICS**

### **What is Physics?**

It is the science that deals with the general properties of matter and with the various manifestations of energy such as heat, light, sound, magnetism, and electricity.

## **2065. PHYSICIANS**

### **What is the position about physicians in various countries?**

The country with the largest number of physicians is USSR where there are 5½ lakh physicians.

The country with the highest per capita ratio is Israel where there is a physician for every 420 persons. On the lowest scale is Upper Volta where there is one physician for every 75000 persons.

## **2066. PHYSIOGNOMY**

### **What is Physiognomy?**

It is the art of judging the character from the external appearance especially from the countenance. The art is founded upon the belief that there is an intimate connection between the features and expression of the face and the qualities and habits of the mind.



## **2067. PHYSIOTHERAPY**

### **What is Physiotherapy?**

It is the treatment of disease by psychical methods as opposed to the administration of drugs.

## **2068. PIEBALD**

### **What is a piebald?**

It is a black and white horse.

## **2069. PIEDMONT**

### **What is Piedmont?**

It is an area near the foot of a mountain range.

## **2070. PIER**

### **In architecture what is a pier?**

It is something built out from a wall to give extra support to a beam.

## **2071. PISCICULTURE**

### **What is Pisciculture?**

It is the artificial rearing of fish.

## **2072. PITMAN**

### **Who was Sir Isaac Pitman?**

Sir Isaac Pitman (1813—1897) was the inventor of short hand.

## **2073. PLACES OF WORSHIP**

### **What is the name for the place of worship in various religions ?**

These are: Islam: Masjid; Buddhism; Pagoda; Christianity; Church; Hinduism: Mandir; Judaism: Synagogue; Sikhism; Gurdawara.

## **2074. PLAGIARIST**

### **Who is a plagiarist?**

He is a literary thief who steals the thoughts and expressions of other people.



## **2075. PLANETS**

**What are planets?**

These are bodies that revolve round a star.

## **2076. PLANETS DISTANCES FROM THE SUN**

**In the case of the planets of the solar system what are the distances of the various planets from the sun?**

These are: Mercury: 3.6 crore miles; Venus 6.7 crore; Earth 9.3 crore; Mars 14.2 crore; Jupiter 48.3 crore; Saturn 88.7 crore; Uranus 178.3 crore, Neptune 279.4 crore; Pluto 367.4 crore.

## **2077. PLANIMETER**

**What is planimeter?**

It is an instrument for measuring areas on a map.

## **2078. PLANNED ECONOMY**

**What is planned economy?**

It is an economy in which the problem of production, distribution and growth are resolved by a central planning authority.

## **2079. PLANT**

**What is a plant?**

It is a living organism belonging to the vegetable kingdom.

## **2080. PLANTS/ANIMALS**

**What is the difference between a plant and an animal?**

A plant is rooted, while an animal can move about. Plants manufacture their food; animals have to depend upon other bodies or things for their food.

## **2081. PLANTS, IMPORTANCE**

**What is the importance of plants?**

They provide Oxygen, food, shelter, and fuel.



## **2082. PLANTATION**

**What is a plantation?**

It is an estate on which large scale production of cash crops is carried on by scientific methods.

## **2083. PLANTS, INSECTIVOROUS**

**Which plants are insectivorous?**

These are such plants as Venus Fly, or Pitcher Plant which attract insects and then trap them.

## **2084. PLANTS, FLOATING**

**Which are the plants that float?**

Sea weeds are the plants that float.

## **2085. PLANTS, POISONOUS**

**Name some plants which are poisonous?**

Some of such plants are Sumac, and Sheep Laurel.

## **2086. PLASSEY**

**Where is Plassey and what is its importance?**

Plassey is a village in West Bengal 90 miles north of Calcutta. Here the Nawab of Bengal Sirajud-Daula was defeated by the British on June 23, 1757.

## **2087. PLASTICS**

**What are plastics?**

These are substances such as Bakelite and other condensed or polymerised substances which at some stage in their making can be moulded into shape.

## **2088. PLASTIC SURGERY**

**What is plastic surgery?**

It is reshaping or remaking lost or damaged parts of the body by surgery.



### **2089. PLATO**

**What was the key note of the philosophy of Plato?**

He believed that mind was more important than matter and that the idea of the 'good' was the whole meaning of life.

### **2090. PLAYGROUND OF EUROPE**

**Which country is known as the playground of Europe?**

Switzerland is known as the playground of Europe.

### **2091. PLEBIAN**

**When we describe some one as a plebian, what is the implication?**

The reference is to some one of low birth or rank and often some one who is undistinguished, lacking in imagination and is vulgar.

### **2092. PLEBISCITE**

**What is a plebiscite?**

It is the direct vote of the people on a matter of national importance.

### **2093. PLIMSOLL LINE**

**On a ship what is the plimsoll line?**

It is a mark on the side of a ship denoting its loading capacity.

### **2094. PLURAL VOTING**

**What is plural voting?**

It is a system whereunder a person can cast more than one vote by virtue of different qualifications.

### **2095. PLUTARCH**

**Who was Plutarch?**

Plutarch (46—120) was a Greek historian and biographer.

### **2096. PLUTO**

**What are the main particulars about the planet Pluto?**

It is the ninth known planet in the order of distance from the sun. It is 367 crore miles from the sun. Its diameter is 9000 miles.



Its day is equal to 7 hours of our time. The year is equal to 247 years of the earth. It is very cold the temperature being —300 C.

### **2097. PLYWOOD**

**What is plywood?**

These are sheets of wood made of thin layers stuck together, each sheet having its fibres at right angles to the next.

### **2098. PNEUMONIA**

**What is Pneumonia?**

It is the disease in which lungs are inflamed.

### **2099. PO**

**Where is the Po?**

It is the longest river of Italy 400 miles. It rises from the Alps and flows into the Adriatic Sea.

### **2100. POEM, LONGEST**

**Which is the longest poem?**

The Mahabarat is the longest poem. It runs into 2.2 lakh lines.

### **2101. POET'S BIRD**

**Which bird is known as the Poet's bird?**

The skylark is known as the poet's bird.

### **2102. POET LAUREATE**

**Who is a poet laureate? Give some facts about poets laureate of England.**

A poet laureate is the poet attached to the royal court in England. The poet laureate writes verses in celebration of national events.

The first poet laureate was Ben Johnson. William Wordsworth became poet laureate at the age of 73.



The longest lived poet laureate was John Masefield who died in 1967 at the age of 89. The longest period of office as poet laureate was that of Lord Tennyson, 41 years. The office is at present held by Cecil Day-Lewis.

### **2103. POETS, GREATEST**

**Name the greatest poets of some languages?**

These are: English: Shakespeare; Sanskrit; Kalidas; Urdu; Iqbal; Persian: Saadi; Latin: Virgil; German: Goethe; Greek; Homer; Italian; Dante.

### **2104. POETRY**

**What is Poetry?**

It is a mode of expression which by rhythm, melody, symbol, and image induces in the hearer a precise, coherent and rich experience of attitude.

### **2105. POLE STAR**

**Why does the pole star appear stationary?**

That is because the position of the pole star in the heavens is in direction line with the axis of the earth.

### **2106. POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**What is Political Science?**

It is the study of the technique or art of governmental administration.

### **2107. POLO**

**What is Polo?**

It is a game played on horseback, mallets being used to hit a ball.

### **2108. POMOLOGY**

**What is Pomology?**

It is the science of fruit growing.

### **2109. POLYGON**

**What is a polygon?**

It is a plain figure having more than four sides.



**2110. POPE**  
**Who is the Pope?**

He is the head of the Roman Catholic Church. The present Pope is Paul VI elected in 1963.

**2111. POPULATION**

**What is the population of the world?**

The present population of the world is about 400 crore.

**2112. POPULATION, DENSELY POPULATED**

**Which is the most densely populated place in the world?**

Hong Kong is the most densely populated place in the world with a density of 12 lakh persons per square mile.

**2113. POPULATION, EXPLOSION**

**What is population explosion?**

It is a sudden and rapid expansion of population in a particular area.

**2114. POPULATION, GROWTH**

**How has the population grown in the course of history?**

It has grown as follows:

4000 BC : 8 crore; 1 AD : 20 crore; 1650 AD : 125 crore;  
1850 : 125 crore; 1900 : 165 crore; 1950 : 250 crore; 1960 : 300  
crore; 1970 : 370 crore.

**2115. POPULATION—MALTHUSIAN THEORY**

**What is Malthusian theory of population?**

The theory is that while population increases in geometric ratio the available resources for subsistence increase only in arithmetic ratio.

**2116. POPULATION—MUSLIMS**

**What is the population of the Muslims in the world?**

The population of the Muslims is 80 crore, one fifth of mankind.



### **2117. POPULATION POTENTIAL**

**What is population potential?**

It is the possible number of people who can live in a specified area with a reasonable standard of living in relation to the available resources in that region.

### **2118. PORES**

**What is the number of pores in the human body?**

The skin has 20 lakh pores, numbering 500 per square inch. Palms of hands or soles of feet have 2000 pores per square inch.

### **2119. PORNOGRAPHY**

**What is Pornography?**

It is the treatment of obscene subjects in literature e.g. Lady Chatterley's Lover.

### **2120. POSITIVISM**

**In philosophy what is positivism?**

It is a school of philosophy which maintains that man and society are susceptible to scientific investigation in the same way as minerals, plants and other substances.

### **2121. POSSIBILISM**

**What is the doctrine of Possibilism?**

It is the doctrine that the environment offers Man a choice of possibilities of which he may not take advantage.

### **2122. POSTAL SERVICES**

**Give some particulars about postal services in important countries?**

USSR is the country with the largest number of post offices, their number being 81,000.

The country with the largest postal mail is USA where people mail 10,000 crore letters and packages every year. The largest postal service is that of USA where 8 lakh persons are employed.



## **2123. POTSAM AGREEMENT**

**What was the Potsam Agreement?**

This agreement was reached in 1945 between Britain, USA and USSR. By this agreement, Poland was given some territory in East Germany. A Council of Foreign Ministers was set up to draft peace treaties, and an Allied Control Council was set up in Germany. Potsam is a town 16 miles from Berlin.

## **2124. POTAMOLGY**

**What is Potamology?**

It is the science of rivers.

## **2125. POTATO**

**What is the peculiarity about potato?**

It yields the most food per unit of land.

## **2126. POTATOES, PRODUCERS**

**Which countries are the main producers of potatoes?**

The main producers are : USSR 31% ; Poland 16% ; West Germany 7% ; East Germany 5% ; the rest 47%.

## **2127. POTOMETER**

**What is Potometer?**

It is an instrument for measuring the amount of water taken in by a plant.

## **2128. POWER**

**What is power in the case of a machine?**

It is the rate at which work is done.

## **2129. POWER GRID**

**What is power grid?**

It is a system of inter connecting power stations by means of high voltage transmission lines.



## **2130. POWER OF ATTORNEY**

**What is Power of Attorney?**

It is an instrument by which a person is authorised to act on behalf of another so as legally to bind that other.

## **2131. POWER STATIONS, TYPES**

**What are the main types of power stations?**

These are:

- (1) Hydro-electric power stations where water power is converted into electric energy;
- (2) Thermal power station where thermal or heat energy is converted into electric energy; and
- (3) Nuclear power station where power is obtained by means of atomic reactors.

## **2132. POWER STATION, HYDRO**

**Which is the world's largest hydro-power station?**

It is the USSR's hydro-electric station at Krasnoyarsk on the Yenisey river with a power of 60 lakh KW.

## **2133. POWER STATION, NON-HYDRO**

**Which is the largest non-hydro power station in the world?**

It is the power station at Paradise constructed by the Tennessee Valley Authority with a capacity of 25 lakh KW.

## **2134. PRAGMATISM**

**In philosophy what is pragmatism?**

It stands for the line of reasoning "If it works, it is good."

## **2135. PRAGUE**

**Where is Prague?**

It is the capital of Czechoslovakia.



## **2136. PRECIOUS GASES**

**Which are precious gases?**

These are Argon; Neon; Helium; Krypton; and Zenon. These gases are completely inert. Not even the greatest heat has the slightest effect on them.

## **2137. PRECIOUS STONES**

**Which are the four precious stones?**

These are: Diamond. Ruby, Sapphire; and Emerald.

## **2138. PREDESTINATION**

**What is Predestination?**

It is the doctrine that all that is to be, is eternally and changelessly decreed.

## **2139. PRE-EMPTION**

**In law, what is pre-emption?**

It is the right of purchase in preference to others.

## **2140. PRENDODOLOGY**

**What is Prendology?**

It is the science of telling lies and untruths.

## **2141. PRESIDENT, USA**

**What is the salary of the President of USA?**

It is 2 lakh dollars per year plus 50,000 dollars per year as entertainment expenses.

## **2142. PRESSURE**

**In Physics what is pressure?**

It is the force acting upon unit area of a surface from any direction.



### **2143. PRESSURE COOKER**

**Why does food get cooked quicker in a pressure cooker?**

The pressure cooker on account of the increase of pressure the boiling point is raised thus increasing the quantity of heat. With the increase in heat lesser time is taken to cook.

### **2144. PRIDE AND PREJUDICE**

**Who wrote the novel "Pride and Prejudice"?**

It was written by Jane Austen.

### **2145. PRIMA DONNE**

**In an opera who is the prima donne?**

She is the chief female singer in the opera.

### **2146. PRIME MINISTER, GREAT BRITAIN**

**What is the salary of the Prime Minister of Great Britain?**

It is 20,000 £ per year.

### **2147. PRIME MINISTERS, WOMEN**

**Which are the countries of which the Prime Ministers are ladies (1976)?**

These are: India (Mrs. Indra Gandhi) and Sri Lanka (Mrs. Badranayke). Mrs. Gandhi has since lost the office.

### **2148. PRISON, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest prison on the world?**

It is the Kharkov Prison in USSR which can accommodate 40,000 prisoners.

### **2149. PRIVY COUNCIL**

**In England, what is the Privy Council?**

It is a council of 300 distinguished persons whose function is to give private advice to the Queen. The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council is the highest Judicial Tribunal.



## **2150. PRIVY PURSE**

**In England what is the privy purse?**

It is the allowance from the civil list for the personal use of the sovereign.

## **2151. PROBABILITY**

**What is probability?**

It is the chance or likelihood of something happening.

## **2152. PROBATE**

**In law what is probate?**

It is the legal proving of a will.

## **2153. PRODUCER GOODS**

**What are producer goods?**

These are goods produced which are needed to manufacture other goods, e.g. machine tools.

## **2154. PROHIBITION**

**What is prohibition?**

It is the prohibition of the manufacture, sale, and transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes.

## **2155. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT**

**What is profit and loss account?**

It is a statement showing the net profit or loss made by a business concern during a particular period.

## **2156. PROFITS, PLOUGHING BACK**

**What is 'ploughing back profits'?**

It is the creation of reserves out of current earnings so that they can be re-employed in expanding business.

## **2157. PROMISSORY NOTE**

**What is a promissory note?**

It is an undertaking by which a debtor promises to pay a certain amount of money on a specified date.



## **2158. PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION**

**What is proportional representation?**

It is a system of voting which aims at securing representation of various interests in the legislature according to their numerical proportions.

## **2159. PROTEINS**

**What are proteins, and what is their importance**

Proteins are complex compounds of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur, phosphorus, magnesium, and iron.

The structural units of the protein molecules are known by the generic names of amino acids. Proteins are called the building stones of life.

## **2160. PROTEINS, EXAMPLES**

**Give some examples of proteins?**

Some examples of proteins are;

- (1) Fibrin found in blood;
- (2) Myosin found in muscles;
- (3) Gelatin found in bones.

## **2161. PROTEIN, FOODS**

**Which foods are rich in proteins?**

Foods rich in proteins are meat, fish, eggs, milk, nuts, and peas.

## **2162. PROTEROZOIC ERA**

**In Geology what was the proterozoic era?**

It lasted from 1000 million years to 500 million years ago. That was the period of one celled organisms such as algae, and protozoa, worms and sponges.

## **2163. PROTOCOL**

**What is protocol?**

It is the code of diplomatic etiquette observed in relation to the treatment of foreign diplomats and VIPs.



#### **2164. PROTOPLASM**

**What is protoplasm?**

It is the stuff that all life is made from. It is a jelly like substance of which all living things are formed.

#### **2165. PROVERB**

**What is a proverb?**

A proverb is a brief, pithy saying condensed in witty or striking form the wisdom of experience.

#### **2166. PROVERBS, EXAMPLES**

**Some examples of proverbs may please be given?**

Some proverbs are:

“Where there’s a will, there is way”;

“Birds of the same feather flock together”.

#### **2167. PROVERBS, LARGEST**

**In which language is the largest number of proverbs?**

The largest number of proverbs is in the Spanish language, the number of proverbs in the Spanish language being 30,000.

#### **2168. PRUDENCE**

**What is prudence?**

It is wisdom applied to practice.

#### **2169. PSYCHO ANALYSIS**

**What is Psycho analysis, and what does it emphasise?**

It is a school of psychology originated by Freud which emphasises the study of unconscious mental processes. It is a method of psychotherapy which seeks to bring unconscious desires into consciousness and make it possible to resolve conflicts dating back to early childhood experiences.

#### **2170. PSYCHOZOIC ERA**

**What was the Psychozoic era?**

This period began a million years ago. It saw the appearance of Man.



### **2171. PUBLIC CLOCK, TALLEST**

**In which building is the tallest public clock in the world?**

It is in the Williamsburg Savings Bank, New York, 430 ft high.

### **2172. PUBLIC FINANCE**

**What are the functions of public finance?**

These are: the provision of essential services; the control of control of particular sectors of the economy, the implementation of social policy and the growth of economy.

### **2173. PUBLIC UTILITIES**

**What are public utilities?**

These are undertakings which provide essential services to the community, e.g. gas, electricity and water supply.

### **2174. PULITZER PRIZE**

**What is Pulitzer Prize?**

It is an award made by USA for literature and journalism.

### **2175. PULLEY**

**What is a pulley?**

It is a wheel over which a rope is pulled.

### **2176. PUN**

**What is a pun?**

It is a play on words having similar sound but different meanings e.g. "I saw a saw which could not saw".

### **2177. PUNCTUATION**

**What is punctuation?**

It is a system of special marks used to make the meaning of a written passage more clear or explicit.



## **2178. PURGATIVE**

**What is a purgative?**

It is a medicine used to cause action of the bowels e.g. fruit salt.

## **2179. PURPLE PATCHES**

**In a literary work what are purple patches?**

These are highly coloured or ornate passages.

## **2180. PURPOSE**

**What is purpose?**

It is a goal directed activity in which the individual has foresight of the end to be accomplished and has definitely committed himself to the action.

## **2181. PUSHKIN**

**Who was Alexander Pushkin?**

Alexander Pushkin (1799—1852) was a Russian poet. He was called "the uncrowned Czar of Russian poetry".

## **2182. PYGMIES**

**In which country are pygmies found?**

They are found in Congo, Africa.

## **2183. PYRENES**

**Where are the Pyrenes?**

These are a mountain range between France and Spain. It extends for 300 miles. The highest peak is 'Maladetta Massif', 11000 ft.

## **2184. PYROMETER**

**What is Pyrometer?**

It is an instrument used to measure the temperature of molten lava.



## **2185. PYTHOGORAS THEOREM**

**In Geometry what is the Pythagoras theorem?**

The theorem is that in the case of a right angled triangle the square on the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares on the other two sides.

## **Q**

## **2186. QUADRANGLE**

**In a campus what is a quadrangle?**

It is a court covered by buildings on all the four sides.

## **2187. QUADRANT**

**What is a quadrant?**

It is the fourth part of a circle.

## **2188. QUADRATIC EQUATION**

**In Algebra what is the quadratic equation?**

It is an equation in which the square is the highest to which the unknown quantity is raised.

## **2189. QUADRUPED**

**What is a quadruped?**

It is an animal with four feet.

## **2190. QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS**

**What is qualitative analysis?**

It is a process which indicates what sort of thing a substance is, and of what elements it is composed.

## **2191. QUALITY**

**In logic what is quality?**

It is the affirmative or negative character of a proposition.



## **2192. QUALITY CONTROL**

**What is quality control?**

It is a system of maintaining desired standard in production.

## **2193. QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS**

**In Chemistry what is quantitative analysis?**

It is the process which indicates how much of each element there is in the substance.

## **2194. QUANTUM THEORY**

**What is Quantum Theory?**

It is the theory propounded by Einstein. It holds that energy is transferred between radiation and matter in finite amounts or quanta which are inversely proportional to wave length.

## **2195. QUARRYING**

**What is quarrying?**

It is the process of the removal of rock from the surface.

## **2196. QUARTERMASTER**

**Who is a Quartermaster?**

He is a military officer charged with the provisioning and superintendence of soldiers in camps or barracks.

## **2197. QUARTO**

**What is Quarto?**

It is a sheet of paper folded twice to make four leaves or 8 pages.

## **2198. QUASARS**

**What are Quasars?**

These are quasi-stellar radio sources which emit strong radio signals. These are believed to lie on the fringes of the observable universe, a billion light years from the earth. These quasars are believed to move at a speed ten times the speed of light.



### 2199. QUATRAIN

What is a quatrain?

It is a stanza of four lines.

### 2200. QUEENS

Which countries in Europe are at present ruled by Queens?

The countries are:

- (1) Great Britain ruled by Queen Elizabeth II;
- (2) Denmark ruled by Queen Margrethe II ; and
- (3) Netherlands ruled by Queen Wilhelmina.

### 2201. QUEEN OF THE BALTIC

Which city is known as the 'Queen of the Baltic'?

Stockholm the capital of Sweden is known as the queen of the Baltic.

### 2202. QUEEN OF THE EAST

In history who is known as the Queen of the East?

Zenobia the ruler of Palmyra in the 3rd century BC was known as the Queen of the East.

### 2203. QUIBBLE

What is quibbling?

It is evading the main point by emphasising some petty detail.

### 2204. QUICKLIME

How is quicklime obtained?

It is obtained by roasting limestone.

### 2205. QUICKSAND

Why does a person sink in quicksand?

Quicksand is a mass of extremely fine sand filled with so much water that it will not support weight. Usually a layer of clay prevents the water from draining away. The water keeps the grains of sand apart, and prevents their packing down hard. Thus if a person steps in quicksand it is just like stepping into water, and he feels as if he is sinking.



## **2206. QUICKSILVER**

**What is quicksilver?**

The metal Mercury is called as such.

## **2207. QUID PRO QUO**

**What is quid pro quo?**

It is tit for tat.

## **2208. QUIETISM**

**What is quietism?**

It is a form of religious mysticism involving withdrawal from worldly concerns and passive contemplation of God.

## **2209. QUIETUS**

**In law what is quietus?**

It is discharge or release from debt.

## **2210. QUINQUENNium**

**What is quinquennium**

It is a period of five years.

## **2211. QUIP**

**What is a quip?**

It is a witty or sarcastic remark.

## **2212. QUITO**

**Where is Quito?**

It is the capital of Ecuador in South America.

## **2213. QUIZ**

**What is Quiz?**

It is a short oral or written examination to test knowledge.



## **2214. QUORUM**

**What is quorum?**

It is the minimum number of members who must be present to make a meeting valid.

## **2215. QUOTIENT**

**In Arithmetic what is the quotient?**

It is the result obtained when one number is divided by another.

## **2216. QUO WARRANTO**

**What is quo warranto?**

It is a writ issued by a court questioning the right of a person to hold an office or exercise franchise or some privilege.

## **2217. QURAN**

**What is the Quran?**

It is the Holy Book of the Muslims revealed by God to the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be on him).

## **2218. QURAN, WORDS**

**What is the numbers of words in the Holy Quran?**

The number of words is 77,934.

## **R**

## **2219. RABAT**

**Where is Rabat?**

Rabat is the capital of Morocco in Africa.

## **2220. RABBI**

**Who is a Rabbi?**

He is a scholar and a teacher of the Jewish law.



### **2221. RABINDRA NATH TAGORE**

**Who was Rabindra Nath Tagore?**

He was a great poet of Bengali. He won the Nobel Prize in 1913.

### **2222. RACE, HUNDRED YARDS**

**What is the record for the hundred yards fast race?**

In 1967 R. L. Hayes of USA ran 100 yards in 9.1 seconds.

### **2223. RACE, ONE HOUR**

**What is the record for one hour race?**

In 1966, G. Roelants of Belgium ran 12 miles and 1478 yards in one hour.

### **2224. RACE, ONE MILE**

**What is the record for one mile race?**

In 1967 J. R. Ryun of USA ran one mile in 3 minutes 51.1 seconds.

### **2225. RACIALISM**

**What is racialism?**

It is the doctrine that preaches the superiority of one race over another.

### **2226. RADAR**

**What is Radar?**

It stands for "Radio Directing and Ranging". It is a way of finding the distance and direction of objects, e.g. aeroplanes. Radio pulses are reflected back from the object. The return pulses are seen on a screen like that of a television.

### **2227. RADAR, USE**

**When was the radar used for the first time?**

It was used for the first time in world war II.



## **2228. RADIATION**

**What is radiation?**

It is energy emitted in the form of a beam of rays or waves.

## **2229. RADIATION, SUN**

**What part of the total radiation from the sun is received on the earth?**

That part which one second bears to seventy four years.

## **2230. RADIANT ENERGY**

**What is radiant energy?**

It is any form of energy travelling in waves.

## **2231. RADIATOR**

**What is a radiator?**

It is an instrument for sending out heat into the air.

## **2232. RADIO SETS**

**What is the number of radio sets in the world, and which country has the largest number?**

The number of radio sets in the world is 63 crore. USA has the largest number of sets, 33 crore.

## **2233. RADIO ACTIVE SUBSTANCES**

**What are the characteristics of radio active substances?**

In these substances the atoms break up of themselves and in breaking up send out electrically charged particles and change into different atoms.

## **2234. RADIOLOGY**

**What is Radiology?**

It is the study and use of X-Rays in medicine.

## **2235. RADIO STATION, POWERFUL**

**Which is the most powerful radio station in the world?**

It is the radio station of Peking, 500 KW.



### **2236. RADIUM DEPOSITS**

**Where are the largest radium deposits in the world?**

These are in the Great Bear Lake region, Canada.

### **2237. RAIL GAUGE**

**Which is the widest rail gauge in the world?**

The widest gauge is 5 ft 6 inches in use in India and Pakistan.

### **2238. RAILROAD**

**What is the total length of railroads throughout the world?**

The total length is 7 lakh miles.

### **2239. RAILROAD BRIDGE**

**Which is the longest railroad bridge in the world?**

It is the Huey P. Long Bridge, New Orleans, Louisiana, with a rail road section of 4.35 miles.

### **2240. RAILROAD, LONGEST STRETCH**

**Which is the longest stretch of through railroad?**

The longest railroad is Moscow to Vladivostok, Trans-Siberian Railway, 6000 miles long.

### **2241. RAILROAD, MILEAGE**

**Which country has the largest rail road mileage?**

USA has the largest mileage 22 lakh miles.

### **2242. RAIL SPEED RECORD**

**What is the record for rail speed?**

In 1955 a rail speed record of 205 miles per hour was reached in France.



### **2243. RAILWAY PLATFORM**

**Which is the longest railway platform in the world?**

It is the State Street Center Subway platform Chicago 3500 ft. long.

### **2244. RAILWAY STATION, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest railway station in the world?**

It is the Grand Central Terminal, New York.

### **2245. RAIN**

**What is rain?**

It is fall of condensed atmospheric vapour in drops of water owing to the lowering of the temperature below dew point.

### **2246. RAINBOW**

**Why is a rainbow seen after rain?**

After rainfall many drops remain suspended in the atmosphere. These act as tiny prisms and disperse the light into various colours. The rain drops are so many that the light is dispersed on a larger scale resulting in a rainbow.

### **2247. RAINBOW COLOURS**

**What are the colours of a rainbow?**

The colours are red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet.

### **2248. RAINDROP, WEIGHT**

**What is the average weight of a rain drop?**

It is .2 grams.

### **2249. RAINFALL, INTENSITY**

**How is the intensity of rainfall determined?**

It is determined by dividing the total rainfall by the number of hours of rain.



## **2250. RAIN GAUGE**

**What is a rain gauge?**

It is an instrument for measuring the rainfall.

## **2251. RAIN SHADOW EFFECT**

**What is the rainshadow effect?**

Inland mountain barriers catch rainfall on their seaward side, and the interior leeward regions remain dry. This is called the rain shadow effect.

## **2252. RAISINS**

**What are raisins?**

These are dry grapes.

## **2253. RAMAZAN**

**What is the Ramazan?**

It is the ninth month in the Muslim calendar and is the month of fasting for the Muslims.

## **2254. RAMESES**

**Who was Rameses?**

He was the Phaorah of Egypt. He ruled 1558—1491 B.C.

## **2255. RANCH**

**What is a ranch?**

It is a farm or estate where cattle or sheep are reared.

## **2256. RAPHAEL**

**Who was Sanzio Raphael?**

Sanzio Raphael 1483—1520 was a famous Italian painter. He decorated the state apartments in the Vatican for the Pope.

## **2257. RATIONALISATION**

**What is rationalisation?**

It is thinking out a reasonable explanation for an unreasonable behaviour.



## **2258. RATIONALISM**

### **What is Rationalism?**

It is a school of thought, which treats reason as the ultimate authority in all matter including religion and rejects all doctrines not consonant with reason.

## **2259. RAY GUN**

### **What is ray gun?**

It is an imaginary weapon causing injury by emission of rays.

## **2260. RAYON**

### **What is rayon, and what is it made of?**

It is artificial silk made from cellulose obtained from wool pulp or cotton linters.

## **2261. RAYS**

### **Why are rays so called?**

These are so called because they spread outward or radiate through space.

## **2262. REACTION**

### **What is reaction?**

It is action in reply to some influence at force.

## **2263. REACTOR**

### **What is a Reactor?**

It is a machine in which Uranium or Plutonium atoms are made to split up in a controlled way so as to produce heat or atomic radiations.

## **2264. REALISM**

### **What is realism in literature?**

It is such literature that depicts life in an entirely objective manner without idealisation or glamour, and without didactic or moral ends.



### **2265. REAM**

**How many sheets of paper there are in a ream?**

There are 480 sheets in a ream.

### **2266. RED CROSS**

**What is Red Cross?**

It is an international agency for the alleviation of human suffering, the giving of relief to the sick and wounded in the time of war.

### **2267. RED LETTER DAY**

**What is Red Letter Day?**

It is a day of some special significance celebrated as a holiday.

### **2268. RED SEA**

**Where is the Red Sea?**

It is an inland sea separating Africa from Arabia. It is 1400 miles long from Suez in the north to Babel Mandab in the south. Its greatest breadth is 250 miles. Its area is 169,073 sq. miles.

### **2269. REFERENDUM**

**What is referendum?**

It is a method in politics by which the people decide in favour of or against a proposal.

### **2270. REFORMATION**

**What was the Reformation?**

It was a religious and political movement in Europe which ended in the establishment of the Protestant Church.

### **2271. REFINERY, LARGEST**

**Which is the world's largest refinery?**

It is the Pernis Refinery, Netherlands with a capacity of 2½ crore long tons annually.



## **2272. REFLEX**

**What is a reflex?**

It is automatic action by the body. It is an action in which no process of thinking is involved, e.g. when some food gets into the wind pipe we cough.

## **2273. REFLECTION**

**In the case of human beings what is reflection?**

It is mental faculty dealing with products of sensation and perception.

## **2274. REFRACTION**

**In light what is refraction?**

It is the change of direction which light rays undergo when passing from one medium to another. The phenomenon is due to the fact that in different media light and other forms of radiation have different speeds.

## **2275. REFRACTION-STICK**

**When a stick is put in water why does it look bent?**

That is because when a ray of light passes from one medium to another it is deviated from the original path.

## **2276. REFRACTORY SUBSTANCES**

**What are refractory substances?**

These are substances capable of standing high temperatures such as fireclay, porcelain.

## **2277. REFRIGERATOR**

**What is a refrigerator, and how does it work?**

It is a machine for freezing or keeping things cold. In the refrigerator vapour is compressed so that it becomes liquid. The liquid is cooled by air. The cooled liquid then evaporates and takes heat from the container in which the food is kept.



## **2278. REFRIGERATOR, FOOD**

**How does a refrigerator keep food fresh?**

The food is fresh as long as there is no process of fermentation. In a refrigerator the temperature is low enough not to allow for fermentation.

## **2279. REIGN, SHORTEST**

**What is the shortest recorded reign of any monarch in history?**

Louis XIX of France reigned for 15 minutes only on August 2, 1830.

## **2280. REINFORCED CONCRETE**

**What is reinforced concrete?**

It is concrete with steel wires or rods cast into it.

## **2281. RELATIVITY, THEORY**

**What does Einstein's theory of relativity provide?**

It provides that absolute motion has no observable effect upon physical phenomena; that the laws of natural phenomena are the same for all observers; and that the velocity of light is the same for all observers irrespective of their own velocity. Its value is constant for all places in the universe, no matter what may be the relative movements of the earth or other system of reference involved.

## **2282. RELIEF**

**In Geography, what is relief?**

It is the physical landscape, the actual configuration of the earth's surface.

## **2283. RELIGION.**

**What is religion?**

It is a divine institution which guides rational beings by their choosing it to salvation here and hereafter and which covers both articles of belief and action. Fundamentally religion deals with the concept of the Supreme Being, the soul, and life after death.



## **2284. RELIGIONS, MAIN**

**Which are the main religions of the world?**

These are: Buddhism; Christianity, Confucianism; Hinduism; Islam; Jainism; Taoism; Judaism; Sikhism; Shintoism; and Zoroastrianism.

## **2285. REMOTEST GALAXY**

**Which is the remotest galaxy visible to the naked eye?**

It is the galaxy Andromeda 22 lakh light years away.

## **2286. REMOTEST OBJECT**

**How far is the remotest object so far detected by radio and other means?**

It is 15600 million light years away.

## **2287. REMBRANDT**

**Who was Rembrandt?**

He was a Dutch painter. He flourished during 1606—1669. He painted over 600 paintings.

## **2288. RENAISSANCE**

**What was the Renaissance?**

It was the revival of art and letters in Europe during the 15th and 16th centuries.

## **2289. RENAISSANCE, ASPECTS**

**What were the various aspects of Renaissance?**

These were:

- (1) New concept of the universe;
- (2) Revival of learning;
- (3) Reformation in religion;
- (4) Break up of medieval society; and
- (5) Birth of the concept of national sovereignty.



## **2290. RENT, RICARDO'S THEORY**

**What is Ricardo's theory of rents?**

The theory is that the rent of a piece of land is the excess of the yield of that piece of land over that of the worst land in cultivation.

## **2291. REPARATION**

**According to the treaty of Versailles what amount was Germany required to pay as reparation for world war 1?**

The amount was fixed at 660 crore Pounds.

## **2292. REPENTENCE**

**What comes too late?**

Repentence comes too late.

## **2293. REPLEVIN**

**In law, what is Replevin?**

It is legal action enabling a person to regain possession of goods or chattels unlawfully held.

## **2294. REPRESENTATION**

**In politics what is representation?**

It is the system whereunder the people elect their representatives.

## **2295. REPRESSION**

**In Psychology what is repression?**

It is the process by which the mind drives out of the consciousness unpleasant memories or ideas.

## **2296. REPRODUCTION**

**In Biology what is Reproduction?**

It is the process by which new individuals are produced by an individual or individuals of the same species.



## **2297. REPTILES**

**What are reptiles?**

These are creeping creatures and include crocodiles, alligators, snakes, and lizards.

## **2298. RESIDENCES, OFFICIAL**

**What are the names for the official residences of the Heads of States in some important countries?**

These are: UK : Buckingham Palace; USA: White House, USSR: Kremlin; Pakistan: President's House; India: Rastra Pati Bhawan; Iran; Kagh-i-Gulistan; Indonesia: Bogor Palace; France: Elysee Palace; Egypt; Ras-t-tin; Denmark; Amelionberg Palace.

## **2299. RESISTANCE**

**In Biology what is Resistance?**

It is the ability of an organism to withstand disease.

## **2300. RESPIRATION**

**In living beings what is respiration?**

It is the process whereby Oxygen is obtained and waste products removed.

## **2301. RESURRECTION**

**What is Resurrection?**

It is belief in the rising again of the human body after death on the Day of judgment.

## **2302. REVELATION**

**What is Revelation?**

It is knowledge disclosed through supernatural agency.

## **2303. REVERSE GEAR**

**In a car what is the reverse gear?**

It is the gear that would make the car move backward.



## **2304. REVOLUTION**

**According to Mao Tse Tung what is a revolution?**

It is an insurrection by which one class overthrows another.

## **2305. RHAZES**

**Who was Rhazes?**

Muhammad bin Zakriya Razi known to the west as Rhazes (840—932) was a great physician. He was the first to classify Chemistry as organic and inorganic. He invented the hydrostatic balance.

## **2306. RHETORIC**

**What is Rhetoric?**

It is the science and art of using language persuasively.

## **2307. RHEUMATISM**

**In rheumatism where is pain felt?**

It is felt in the joints because of inflammation.

## **2308. RHINE**

**Where is the Rhine?**

It is the main river of Europe. It rises in the Swiss Alps and flows into the North Sea in the Netherlands. The towns on the river are Dusseldorf, Cologne, Bonn, Mainz, Strausbourg and Rotterdam.

## **2309. RHYME**

**In poetry, what is rhyme?**

It is the formal pattern which distinguishes verse from prose.

## **2310. RICE**

**Which countries are the main producers of rice?**

These are China 32%, India 21%; Japan 7%; Bangla Desh 7%, Indonesia 5%, Burma 3%; rest 25%.



### **2311. RICKETS**

**What are the signs of Rickets?**

The signs are: failure in growth in children, and softening of bones.

### **2312. RIFLE**

**What is a rifle?**

It is a fire arm with a grooved barrel which gives a rotary motion to the bullet.

### **2313. RIG VEDA**

**What is the Rig Veda?**

It is the sacred book of the Hindus believed to have been written about 1000 BC.

### **2314. RIGHTS OF MAN, DECLARATION OF**

**What was the declaration of the rights of man?**

It was a formal pronouncement of the philosophy underlying French Revolution. It provided:

- (1) Men are born free and equal in rights.
- (2) The aim of every political association is the preservation of the natural and undoubted rights of man.
- (3) These rights are liberty, property, security and resistance to oppression.
- (4) All sovereignty resides in the nation.

This declaration became the charter of liberalism.

### **2315. RIGHT OF THE WAY**

**In law, what is the right of the way?**

It is the right of the public to have access to their houses.

### **2316. RIVER**

**What is a river?**

It is a stream of water flowing in a natural channel to the sea, a lake or some other river.



### **2317. RIVER CATCHMENT**

**What is a river catchment?**

It is the area drained by a river.

### **2318. RIVER, GREATEST FLOW**

**Which river has the greatest flow in the world?**

The greatest flow is that of the Amazon which discharges an average of 4,200,000 cubic feet of water per second.

### **2319. RIVER, LARGEST TRIBUTARIES**

**Which river has the largest number of tributaries?**

The Amazon in South America has 1500 tributaries.

### **2320. RIVERS, LONGEST**

**Name the first nine longest rivers of the world?**

These are: Nile 4160 miles; Amazon 4050 miles; Mississippi 3710 miles; Yangtse 3400 miles; Congao 3000 miles; Lena 2800 miles; Mekong 2800 miles; Obi 2700 miles; Niger, 2600 miles.

### **2321. RIVERS, QUANTUM OF WATER**

**How much water do the rivers of the world pour into the ocean every year?**

The quantum of water is 9,000 cubic miles.

### **2322. RIVER OF THOUSAND ISLANDS**

**Which river is called 'The river of thousand islands'?**

The river St. Lawrence in Canada is called as such.

### **2323. RIVERIA**

**Where is Riviera?**

It is the coastal strip of south eastern France and northern Italy on the Mediterranean Sea at the foot of the Alps and the Appenines. It is one of the world's greatest holiday areas offering picturesque landscape.



#### **2324. RIVETING**

**What is Riveting?**

It is the process of joining two metals by hammering rivets through holes punched in them.

#### **2325. ROADS, GREATEST LENGTH**

**Which is the country with the greatest length of roads?**

USA has the greatest length of roads, 37 lakh miles.

#### **2326. ROAD, LONGEST**

**Which is the longest motorable road in the world?**

It is the American Highway from Alaska to Gila 13859 miles long.

#### **2327. ROAD TUNNEL**

**Which is the longest road tunnel in the world?**

It is the Mt. Blanc Tunnel under the Alps in Switzerland 7 miles long.

#### **2328. ROAD, WIDEST**

**Which is the widest road in the world?**

It is the Monumental Axis in Brazilia, Brazil. It is a six lane boulevard 274 yards wide.

#### **2329. ROASTING**

**What is roasting?**

It is cooking in an oven on dry heat.

#### **2330. ROARING FORTIES**

**Where are the Roaring Forties?**

It is a belt in South Pacific between 40 and 60 degrees south characterised by strong gales.

#### **2331. ROBINSON CRUSOE**

**On which island is the story of Robinson Crusoe based?**

It is based on the island of Juan Fernandez. It lies off the coast of Chile in South America.



## 2332. ROBOT

**What is a robot?**

It is a plane without a pilot.

## 2333. ROCKS

**What are rocks?**

Rocks are the natural materials which up the earth's crust ?

## 2334. ROCKS, KINDS

**What are the kinds of rocks?**

The kinds of rocks are:

- (1) Igneous rocks, the rocks ejected from the earth's interior by volcanic action;
- (2) Sedimentary rocks, the rocks formed by the wearing down of the older rocks, and the redeposition of rock particles;
- (4) Metapheric rocks, rocks formed by the changing of other rocks, e.g. sandstones are metamorphorsed into quartzites; shales into slates; limestones into marble; and coal into graphite.

## 2335. RODENT

**What is a rodent?**

It is a gnawing animal.

## 2336. ROLLED GOLD

**What is rolled gold?**

It is a thin film of gold over brass.

## 2337. ROMAN NUMERALS

**In Roman numerals how would you write 1,10,50,100,500 and 1000?**

We would write them as 1:I; 10:X; 50:L; 100:C; 500:D; 1000:M.



### **2338. ROMANTICISM**

**In literature what is romanticism?**

It is a movement which emphasises the importance of imagination and emotions as compared with reason and intellect.

### **2339. ROME, MEANING**

**What does 'Rome' literally mean?**

It means a stream town.

### **2340. RONTGEN**

**Who was Wilhelm Rontgen?**

Wilhelm Rontgen (1845—1923) was a German scientist who discovered X-Rays.

### **2341. ROOF OF THE WORLD**

**Which plateau is known as the roof of the world?**

The Pamir plateau in Central Asia is known as the roof of the world.

### **2342. ROOTS**

**What are the functions of the roots of a tree?**

The functions are to anchor the tree to the ground, and to absorb water and minerals from the soil.

### **2343. ROPE**

**Why does a rope never lie straight when thrown on the ground?**

In a rope the molecules pull on each other, and because of such pull when a rope is thrown on the ground it would never lie straight unless some force is applied to straighten it.

### **2344. ROSES, WAR OF**

**What was the war of roses?**

It was a civil war in England during 1455—85. Richard Duke of York claimed the throne when Henry VI became insane. Henry's supporters, the Lancastrians took the red rose as their symbol, and the Yorkists took a white rose as their symbol.



### **2345. ROT**

**What makes wood rot, and how can such rotting be prevented?**

The wood rots because it is attacked by certain bacteria and fungi. If the wood is impregnated with creosole, an antiseptic the rotting of wood can be prevented because it is poisonous to microbes.

### **2346. ROTTEN EGGS**

**Which is the gas that gives rotten eggs their bad odour?**

The gas is Hydrogen Sulphide.

### **2347. ROUGH DIAMOND**

**Who is a rough diamond?**

An ill mannered person is called a rough diamond.

### **2348. ROUSSEAU**

**Who was Rousseau?**

Henri Jean Lacques Rousseau (1712—1778) was a French writer and philosopher. His writings inspired the French Revolution. His well known books are "Confessions"; and "The Social Contract".

### **2349. ROWING**

**What is Rowing?**

It is driving a boat through water with oars.

### **2350. RUBBER**

**How is natural rubber obtained?**

It is obtained by tapping tropical trees for an emulsion called latex from which the rubber particles are coagulated.

### **2351. RUBBER BELT**

**Which area is known as the Rubber Belt?**

The area of about 700 miles on each side of the equator is the rubber belt.



## **2352. RULE OF THE ROAD**

**What is the rule of the road?**

In England, India and Pakistan the rule is to keep the vehicle to the left of the road; in Europe and America the rule is to keep the vehicle to the right.

## **2353. RULE OF THE THUMB**

**What is the rule of the thumb?**

It is the rule based on experience or practice.

## **2354. RUNNING**

**What is the record for running?**

In 1836 Mensen Ernst of Norway set record for running from Istanbul to Calcutta and back in 59 days at 94 miles a day.

The record for the longest non-stop run is 121 miles in 22 hours by J.R.B. Beards of USA in October 1969.

The lifetime mileage record of run is 151,470 miles run by Ken Baily of U.K.

## **2355. RUSSELL, BERTRAND**

**Who was Bertrand Russell?**

Bertrand Russell (1872—1969) was an English philosopher and mathematician. Some of his works are: "The Principles of Mathematics", "Problems of Philosophy", "History of Western Philosophy"; "Marriage and Morals"; "Human Knowledge"; "Commonsense and Nuclear Warfare"; and "Autobiography".

## **2356. RUSSIAN REVOLUTION**

**What was the Russian Revolution?**

It was a revolution in Russia in 1917 when the government of the Czar was overthrown and power was captured by the Communists.

## **2357. RUST**

**When exposed to damp air why does iron become rusty?**

Iron combines with Oxygen in the damp air to form iron oxide. This iron oxide appears as rust.



### 2358. RUTHERFORD

**Who was Ernest Rutherford?**

Ernest Rutherford (1871—1937) was a scientist. He discovered the nuclear nature of the atom. He was awarded the Nobel prize in 1908.

## S

### 2359. SAADI

**Who was Saadi?**

Muslihuddin Saadi 1184—1291 was a great Persian poet. His best known books are Gulistan, and Bostan.

### 2360. SABBATH

**According to Christians what is the Sabbath?**

It is Sunday, the day of rest.

### 2361. SACCHARIN

**What is the degree of the sweetness of saccharin?**

It is 550 times as sweet as cane sugar.

### 2362. SACK CLOTH AND ASHES

**When is a person said to be in sack cloth and ashes?**

When he is in a state of great penitence or mourning.

### 2363. SACREMENT

**What is sacrament?**

It is something regarded as having a sacred character.

### 2364. SACRILEGE

**What is sacrilege?**

It is intentional desecration or disrespectful treatment of a person, place or thing or idea held sacred.



### **2365. SAFE CONDUCT**

**What is safe conduct?**

It is permission to travel through a dangerous area.

### **2366. SAFETY GLASS**

**What is safety glass composed of?**

It is a combination of glass and plastics.

### **2367. SAFETY VALVE**

**What is a safety valve?**

It is a valve which releases excess pressure quickly when it rises above a pre-determined safe level.

### **2368. SAGA**

**What is saga?**

A story of adventure or heroic deeds.

### **2369. SAIGON**

**Where is Saigon?**

It is the capital of South Vietnam.

### **2370. SAINT AGNES EVE**

**Which time is regarded as St. Agnes Eve and what is its significance?**

The night of January 20 is regarded as St. Agnes Eve. The belief is that if a virgin performs certain rites she gets a revelation of her future husband.

### **2371. SALAD DAYS**

**According to Shakespeare what are salad days?**

That is the time of youth and inexperience.

### **2372. SALADIN**

**Who was Saladin?**

He was the ruler of Egypt from 1171 to 1194 AD. He was the hero of the Crusades.



### **2373. SALAMANDER**

**What was the salamander?**

It was a mythological reptile that was said to live in fire.

### **2374. SALAZAR**

**Who was Salazar?**

He was the dictator of Portugal from 1932 to 1968.

### **2375. SALESMANSHIP**

**What is salesmanship?**

It is the technique of selling.

### **2376. SALT MINES, LARGEST**

**Which are the two largest salt mines in the world?**

These are the mines at Wieliczka in Poland, and at Khewra in Pakistan.

### **2377. SALT WATER**

**Why is it easier to swim in salt water than in fresh water?**

That is because salt water is heavier than fresh water and sustains the body.

### **2378. SALVATION ARMY**

**What is the Salvation Army?**

It is an international organisation on semi-military lines founded in England by William Booth in 1865 for religious and philanthropic purposes.

### **2379. SAMSON'S CROWN**

**What is Samson's crown?**

It is an achievement of great renown which costs the life of the doer.

### **2380. SANAI**

**Who was Sanai?**

Sanai (d 1141) was a Persian poet of Ghazni. He was a great master of mystical poetry, most of his poems being allegories describing divine love. His 'Garden of Truth' is a master piece of poetry and mysticism.



### **2381. SAND DUNE, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest sand dune in the world?**

It is the Libyan Erg in Libya which is as large as France.

### **2382. SAND, PARTICLES**

**In sand, what are the dimensions of the particles?**

These vary in diameter from  $1/500''$  to  $1/10''$ .

### **2383. SANITATION**

**What is Sanitation?**

It is the science and practice of effecting healthful and hygienic conditions.

### **2384. SANTA CRUZ**

**Where is Santa Cruz?**

It is the airport of Bombay.

### **2385. SAPPHIRE**

**What is the colour of sapphire?**

It is deep blue.

### **2386. SAPROBIC**

**What are Saprobie?**

These are organisms living in polluted waters.

### **2387. SAPROPHYTE**

**What are Saprophyte?**

These are organisms that live on dead or decaying organisms.

### **2388. SARACENS**

**Who were the Saracens?**

The Muslims were called by this name by the Christians in the Middle Ages.



### **2389. SARCASM**

**What is sarcasm?**

It is a biting taunting remark.

### **2390. SARCOLOGY**

**What is Sarcology?**

It is the branch of anatomy that deals with the soft tissues of the body.

### **2391. SARCOPHAGUS**

**What is sarcophagus?**

It is a monumental tomb.

### **2392. SARGASSO SEA**

**Where is Sargasso Sea and why is it so named?**

It is an arm of the North Atlantic Ocean. It is so named because of the vast amount of sargassum (sea weed) floating in it.

### **2393. SASSANIDS**

**Who were the Sassanids?**

They were a dynasty of Persian rulers established by Artaxerxes who ruled from 226 to 652 AD.

### **2394. SATELLITES, ARTIFICIAL**

**What are the particulars about artificial satellites?**

The first satellite launched in space was Sputnik 1 by USSR on October 4, 1957. Since 1957 satellites have been launched in space by USA, Great Britain, Canada, France, and Italy. Since 1957 over 3000 satellites have been launched.

### **2395. SATELLITE, LOWEST HEIGHT**

**What is the lowest height at which a satellite can orbit round the earth?**

The lowest height is 100 miles.



## **2396. SATURN**

**What are the particulars about the planet Saturn?**

It is the second largest planet in the solar system, with nine moons. It is sixth in distance from the sun, and notable for three concentric rings which revolve around it. Diameter 72,000 miles. Its day is equal to 10 hours 14 minutes of the earth. Its year is 29.65 years of the earth.

## **2397. SATURN, RINGS OF**

**What are the rings of Saturn?**

The rings surrounding the planet are made up of a large number of small particles of matter revolving round the planet like thousands of moons. It is believed that these are fragments of a former satellite which went too close to Saturn and was broken up.

## **2398. SATYAGRAHA**

**What was Satyagraha?**

It was the political doctrine of Mr. Gandhi which favoured passive resistance and non-cooperation in opposing British rule in India.

## **2399. SAVANNA**

**What is savanna?**

It is tropical grassland.

## **2400. SAVANT**

**Who is a savant?**

He is an eminent scholar.

## **2401. SCANDAL**

**What is a scandal?**

It is any act that offends or shocks moral feelings of the community.

## **2402. SCAPEGOAT**

**Who is a scapegoat?**

He is a person on whom the blame for the mistakes or crimes of others is thrust.



### **2403. SCARLET LETTER**

**Who wrote the novel 'The Scarlet Letter'?**

It was written by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

### **2404. SCEPTICISM**

**What is the doctrine of scepticism?**

*It is the doctrine that since Man is unable to know the real nature of things in place of futile search for what must ever be unknowable, Man should be practical and follow the custom.*

### **2405. SCHILLER**

**Who was Schiller?**

He was a German dramatist and poet. He died in 1805 AD.

### **2406. SCHISM**

**What is schism?**

It is a split or division in an organised group or society.

### **2407. SCHOLASTICISM**

**In the Middle Ages what was scholasticism?**

It was the system of logic, philosophy and theology taught in the European universities in the Middle Ages.

### **2408. SCIENCE**

**What is science?**

It is systematised knowledge derived from observation.

### **2409. SCIENCE FICTION**

**What is science fiction?**

It is a highly imaginative or fantastic kind of fiction involving some scientific phenomenon.

### **2410. SCIENTISM**

**What is scientism?**

It is the principle that scientific methods can and should be applied in all fields of investigation.



## **2411. SCIENTIST**

**What is the difference between a scientist and a lawyer?**

A scientist finds facts. A lawyer subordinates facts to his particular view point.

## **2412. SCIOLISM**

**What is Sciolism?**

It is superficial knowledge or learning.

## **2413. SCOTLAND YARD**

**In England what is the Scotland yard?**

It is the headquarters of the Metropolitan Police force.

## **2414. SCOURGE OF GOD**

**In history who was called the 'Scourge of God'?**

Attila the Hun king who invaded Europe in 451 AD was called the scourge of God.

## **2415. SCOUT**

**According to the scout law, what are the twelve characteristics of a scout?**

According to the law a scout is trustworthy; loyal; helpful; friendly; courteous; kind; obedient; cheerful; thrifty, brave, clean and respectful.

## **2416. SCULLING**

**In boat race what is the difference between rowing and sculling?**

In sculling two oars are used, while in rowing only one oar is used.

## **2417. SCULPTURE**

**What is sculpture?**

It is art of forming representation of objects by chiselling stone, carving wood, modelling clay, casting metal or similar processes.



## **2418. SEA**

**What is a sea?**

It is an arm of an ocean.

## **2419. SEAS—AREA**

**What is the total area of the seas, and how does this area compare with the area of the oceans?**

The area of the seas is 11,053,700 square miles while the area of the oceans is 129,428,700 sq. miles.

## **2420. SEA, DEEPEST**

**Among the seas which is the deepest?**

The Carribean Sea is the deepest with an average depth of 8669 ft.

## **2421. SEA, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest sea in the world?**

South China Sea with an area of 1,148,500 sq. miles is the largest sea in the world.

## **2422. SEA, SHALLOWEST**

**Which is the shallowest sea in the world?**

Persian Gulf is the shallowest sea with an average depth of 84 ft.

## **2423. SEA SHELL**

**Why do we hear the sea roaring in the sea shell?**

The shells are made up of multi-curved surface. Air suffers multi-reflections when it passes through it. These manifold reflections produce a mixed vibrational effect resembling sea roaring.

## **2424. SEA, SMALLEST**

**Among the seas which is the smallest?**

It is the Sea of Marmara with an area of 3200 sq. miles.



## **2425. SEA OF TRANQUILLITY**

**What is the Sea of Tranquillity?**

It is the place where Man landed on the moon in July 1969.

## **2426. SEAPORT, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest seaport in the world?**

It is New York with a water front of 755 miles.

## **2427. SEA WEEDS**

**What are sea weeds?**

These are plants which grow at the sea bottom at distances ranging from high water mark to a depth of some 600 ft.

## **2428. SECURITY COUNCIL**

**What is the Security Council?**

It is the principal organ of the UNO charged with primary responsibility of maintaining international peace and security.

## **2429. SEINE**

**Which is the river that flows through Paris?**

It is the river Seine.

## **2430. SEISMOGRAPH**

**What is Seismograph?**

It is an instrument for recording earthquake shocks.

## **2431. SELENOGRAPHY**

**What is Selenography?**

It is geography of the Moon.

## **2432. SELJUKS**

**Who were the Seljuks?**

They were a Perso-Turkish dynasty of 11 emperors who ruled over a large part of Asia for 138 years from 1056 to 1194 AD.



### **2433. SEMANTICS**

**What is Semantics?**

It is the study of the nature of meaning of words.

### **2434. SEMAPHORE**

**What is Semaphore?**

It is an apparatus for signalling.

### **2435. SEMIRAMUS**

**Who was Semiramus?**

She was the queen of Assyria. She was the mother of Ninus who founded Ninevah. She fought against the Medes and Chaldeans. According to legend she invaded Sind as well.

### **2436. SEMITE**

**Who are Semites?**

They are the descendants of Shem the son of Noah.

### **2437. SENNACHERIB**

**Who was Sennacherib?**

He was king of Assyria. He ruled 702—681 BC.

### **2438. SENSATION**

**What is sensation?**

It is the stimulation of any one of the sense organs by some physical object.

### **2439. SENSES**

**In human beings what are the five senses?**

These are the senses of touch; taste; smell; sight; and hearing.

### **2440. SENTENCE**

**In writing, what is a sentence?**

It is a group of words expressing one idea.



## **2441. SEPARATION OF POWERS**

**What is the doctrine of the separation of powers?**

The doctrine is that government should be organised in three compartments i.e. legislative, executive, and judicial, and each branch should be independent.

## **2442. SERAGLIO**

**What was the Seraglio?**

It was the palace of the Sultans of Turkey at Constantinople. It was situated on the Golden Horn and was enclosed by a wall over 7 miles in circuit.

## **2443. SERICULTURE**

**What is Sericulture?**

It is the rearing of silk worms and the production of raw silk.

## **2444. SERUM**

**What is the serum?**

It is the thin transparent part of the blood, liquid in character, and containing in solution, mineral salts, protein substances and sugar.

## **2445. SEVENTEENTH PARALLEL**

**What is the 17th parallel?**

It is the dividing line between North Vietnam and South Vietnam

## **2446. SEVEN WONDERS**

**Which were the seven wonders of the ancient world?**

These were:

- (1) Pyramids of Egypt;
- (2) Hanging Gardens of Babylon;
- (3) Statue of Zeus;
- (4) Temple of Artemis;
- (5) Mausoleum of Halicarnassus;
- (6) Colossus at Rhodes; and
- (7) Lighthouse of Alexandria.



## **2447. SEVEN YEARS WAR**

**What was the Seven Years War?**

It was the war waged by Fredrick the Great of Germany and England against Austria, France, and Russia from 1756 to 1763. It resulted in the accession of Silesia to Prussia and Canada to England.

## **2448. SEVRES, TREATY OF**

**What was the treaty of Sevres?**

It was a treaty signed on 10-8-1920 but never enforced. Under its terms:

- (1) Greece was to acquire Thrace and Symrna;
- (2) Syria, Mesopotamia, Arabia, and Armenia were to be independent;
- (3) Bosphorous and Dardanelles were to be administered by the League of Nations.
- (4) All non-Turkish lands were to be renounced by Turkey.

## **2449. SEWAGE**

**What is sewage?**

It is house refuse carried by sewers.

## **2450. SEX RATIO**

**Which is the country with the largest and the least female proportion?**

In USSR is the largest female surplus where there are 1172 females for 1000 males. The least number of women is in Pakistan where there are 901 women for every 1000 males.

## **2451. SEXTANT**

**What is a sextant?**

It is an instrument used by the navigators to find the latitude by measuring the sun's altitude.

## **2452. SEWERAGE WORK, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest sewerage work in the world?**

It is the Sewerage Work of Chicago, USA where 68 crore gallons of waste are treated every day.



### **2453. SHADOW**

**Why is a shadow cast by a body?**

That is because light travels in straight lines and the body blocks the movement of the rays of light.

### **2454. SHAKESPEARE**

**Who was William Shakespeare?**

William Shakespeare (1564—1616) is regarded as the greatest of the English poets and dramatist. His dramas are Hamlet, Macbeth, Othello, King Lear, and As You Like It.

### **2455. SHAW, WORKS**

**Name some of the well known works of Gerorge Bernard Shaw?**

Some of his works are: Apple Cart, Pygmalion; St. John; The Doctor's Dilemma; Back to Methuselah; The Man of Destiny.

### **2456. SHEEP**

**Which is the country with the largest number of sheep in the world?**

Australia has the largest number of sheep 16 crore against 99 crore for the whole world.

### **2457. SHEEP FARM**

**Which is the largest sheep farm in the world?**

It is the farm at Commonwealth Hill, Australia with one lakh sheep.

### **2458. SHIBBOLETH**

**What is a Shibboleth?**

It is the pass word of a secret society; it is the secret by which those of a party know each other.

### **2459. SHINTOISM**

**Which is the sacred book of Shintoism the state religion of Japan?**

Their sacred book is the Kojiki.



#### **2460. SHIP BUILDING COMPANY**

**Which is the largest ship building company in the world?**

It is 'Ishikawajima Harima Co', Tokyo, Japan which builds 40 ships a year.

#### **2461. SHOCK ABSORBER**

**In a motor car what is a shock absorber?**

It is a mechanism which damps or slows down the action of the springs so as to produce smooth running.

#### **2462. SHRUB**

**What is the difference between a shrub and a tree?**

Trees have always a single main stem and usually grow more than 10 ft. high. Shrubs have several main stems and are small in height.

#### **2463. SHOULDER**

**What is the shoulder composed of?**

It is composed of bones, muscles, and ligaments.

#### **2464. SIAMESE TWINS**

**Who are Siamese Twins?**

These are babies who are born joined together. They are joined by a bridge of flesh through which the blood flows from one twin to the other. The name originated from twins from Siam who were exhibited for many years during the 19th century.

#### **2465. SIBYL**

**Who is called a sibyl?**

The term is applied to any prophetess or woman fortune teller.

#### **2466. SICILY**

**Where is Sicily?**

It is an island in the Mediterranean. It is administered as a region of Italy.



### **2467. SIEGFRIED LINE**

**What was the Siegfried line?**

It was the line of defence erected by Germany before the second world war.

### **2468. SILK CITY**

**Which city in France is called the Silk City?**

Lyon is called the Silk City. It is famous for its fine silk fabrics.

### **2469. SILVER**

**Which countries are the leading producers of silver?**

These are: Mexico 17%; Canada 16%; Peru 16%; USA 14%; rest 37%.

### **2470. SIMILE**

**What is a simile?**

It is a figure of speech which points out a similarity between things otherwise unlike. For example "Men fear death, as children fear to go in the dark."

### **2471. SIMMERDIM**

**In the Shetland Island in the north what is Simmerdim?**

Here in the summer months there is no darkness during nights. The sun is below the horizon for five or six hours only and the twilight of each day is caught up in the dawn of the next. This is known as simmerdim.

### **2472. SIMOON**

**What is simoon?**

It is a desert sand storm.

### **2473. SIMPLON**

**What is the Simplon?**

It is a pass over the Alps in Europe.



#### **2474. SINAI**

**Where is the Sinai peninsula?**

It lies between the Gulf of Suez, and the northern end of the Red Sea.

#### **2475. SINE**

**In a right angled triangle what is the sine of an angle?**

It is the length of the side opposite to the angle divided by the length of the hypotenuse.

#### **2476. SINE DIE**

**When is a meeting adjourned sine die?**

It is adjourned sine die when it is dispersed without fixing a date for the next meeting.

#### **2477. SINN FEIN**

**What was the Sinn Fein?**

Sinn Fein (meaning Ourselves Alone) was an Irish nationalist movement founded in 1905 which ultimately triumphed in the establishment of the Irish Free State.

#### **2478. SIPHON**

**What is a siphon, and how does it work?**

It is a bent tube with unequal arms through which liquid in a container is transmitted to a lower level by means of air pressure, difference between the liquid in the container and the liquid in the receiving vessel.

#### **2479. SIROCCO**

**What is the Sirocco?**

It is a dry hot wind which blows to the north from the Sahara across Libya and the Mediterranean.

#### **2480. SKATING**

**On what principle does skating depend?**

It depends on the principle that ice melts under pressure.



#### **2481. SKIING**

**What is skiing?**

It is the sport of gliding over snow on long flats, strips of metal, wood or plastics called skis.

#### **2482. SKI JUMP**

**What is the record of the ski jump?**

In 1967, R. Bachier of Austria established a record of 505 ft.

#### **2483. SKIN**

**In human body what is the skin and what are its functions?**

The skin is the outer covering of the body. It has two layers, the epidermis and the dermis. The functions of the skin are to protect the inner organ, to regulate temperature of the body, to throw out waste and to give shape to the body.

#### **2484. SKULL**

**What does the human skull consist of?**

It consists of 8 bones of the cranium enclosing the brain, and the 14 bones of the face.

#### **2485. SKY MARSHALS**

**Who are Sky Marshals?**

These are airborne Police Officers who fly in the airliners to guard from hijackers.

#### **2486. SKYSCRAPER**

**Which is the world's most famous skyscraper?**

It is the Empire State building in New York 1250 ft high with 102 storeys completed in 1931.

#### **2487. SLATE PENCIL**

**Why does a slate pencil write on a slate but not on paper?**

The slate pencil writes on the slate because the slate is hard enough to rub it down when it is pressed. Paper is not hard enough to do so, and as such we cannot write on paper with this pencil.



## **2488. SLEEP**

**What is sleep?**

Sleep is a recurrent physiological state characterised by loss of consciousness. During sleep one becomes unconscious of outside happenings; the brain and the body get rest; the muscles relax; and the heart beats slowly. During sleep there is diminution of respiration; the rate of breathing is slowed; the circular activity is lessened; and there is some lowering of temperature.

## **2489. SLEEP, RECORD**

**What is the record for sleep?**

One Mr. Horms slept for thirty in his cottage at a stretch in Minnesota in USA.

## **2490. SLEET**

**What is sleet?**

It is mixture of snow and rain.

## **2491. SLOTH**

**Which is the animal that hangs itself inverted from the branches of trees?**

The sloth hangs itself thus.

## **2492. SLOW CYCLING**

**What is the record for slow cycling?**

In 1965, Tsugunobu Misuishi of Tokyo, Japan stayed stationary for 5 years 25 minutes while on the cycle.

## **2493. SMALL HOURS**

**What are the small hours?**

The small hours are the early hours of the morning from 3 to 5 A.M. Mr. Winston Churchill usually worked during the small hours and often held councils of war during these hours.

## **2494. SMASH**

**In badminton what is a smash?**

It is striking overhead with great force.



## **2495. SMELL**

**How do we smell things?**

The air carries tiny particles of things which give odour. When we breathe some of these particles dissolve in the liquid inside the nose. From there a message is sent to the brain and that makes the process of smelling.

## **2496. SMELTING**

**What is smelting?**

It is the extraction of a metal by heating the ore in a furnace.

## **2497. SMOKE**

**What is smoke due to?**

It is the result of incomplete combustion of certain fuels. If the fuels were to burn completely there would be no smoke.

## **2498. SNAKES**

**Which are the longest and the deadliest snakes in the world?**

The Anaconda of South America is the longest snake. It is about 40 ft long. The cobra is the deadliest snake. Its venom is the most potent and powerful.

## **2499. SNEEZE**

**When do we sneeze?**

A sneeze occurs when the white tissue or lining in the nose called membrane gets inflamed and irritated. The body reacts to such irritation by letting out air as quickly as possible through the nose and mouth in an attempt to get rid of whatever is causing the irritation. That causes sneeze.

## **2500. SNIPERSCOPE**

**What is sniperscope?**

It is an instrument which when attached to a rifle helps a soldier aim at an enemy without exposing himself to their view.

## **2501. SNORE**

**Why do people snore in sleep?**

When one is asleep the mouth and the throat relax and one breathes deeply which produces a fluttering sound.



## **2502. SNOW**

**What is snow?**

It is frozen water vapour precipitated in soft white flakes.

## **2503. SNOWFALL**

**What is the record for the greatest snowfall?**

There was a snowfall of 76 inches in 24 hours at Silver Lake Colorado in April 1921.

## **2504. SNOWFLAKE**

**Why is snowflake white?**

Snow is frozen water. The white appearance is caused by the fact that many surfaces in all the ice crystals that make up a snowflake reflect light and as light is white we see the snowflakes as white.

## **2505. SNOWLINE**

**What is the snowline?**

It is the limit above which snow would not melt.

## **2506. SNOWMAN**

**What is snowman?**

It is a creature half man, half beast living in snow near Mt. Everest. The Tibetans call it 'Yeti'.

## **2507. SOAP**

**How does soap cleanse the skin?**

The foam of the soap mixes with the dirt on the body, and when washed with water such dirt is carried away thereby cleansing the skin.

## **2508. SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**Which studies are included in the term 'Social Sciences'?**

These include Economics; Political Science; and Sociology.



## **2509. SOCIALISM**

**What is Socialism?**

It is a political and economic doctrine according to which the means of production, distribution and exchange are owned and controlled by the society as a whole.

## **2510. SOCIETY**

**What is society?**

According to Alexis de Tocqueville a society can exist only when a great number of men consider a great number of things in the same way; when they hold the same opinions upon many subjects and when the same occurrences suggest the same thoughts and impressions to their minds.

## **2511. SOCIOLOGY**

**What is Sociology?**

Sociology is the science of society, the study of the various forms of institutions and growth of social groups.

## **2512. SODIUM**

**Why is sodium kept in kerosene oil and not in water?**

Sodium reacts with water to produce sodium hydroxide and hydrogen but it does not react with kerosene oil.

## **2513. SODIUM BICARBONATE**

**How is fire extinguished by Soda bicarbonate?**

Soda bicarbonate in the heat of fire decomposes giving out carbon dioxide which extinguishes the fire by retarding the process of combustion.

## **2514. SOFT CURRENCY**

**What is soft currency?**

It is a currency with a relatively unstable or declining value in international exchange.

## **2515. SOIL EROSION**

**What is soil erosion?**

It is the removal of soil by the forces of nature more rapidly than the various soil forming processes can replace it particularly



as a result of Man's ill judged activities of over grazing, burning and clearance of the vegetation cover.

#### **2516. SOLAR FLARE?**

**What is solar flare?**

Sometimes a mass of incandescent hydrogen erupts violently from the surface of the sun. This is called solar flare.

#### **2517. SOLAR SYSTEM**

**What does the solar system comprise?**

It comprises the sun, nine major planets and comets and meteors. The planets are Mercury; Venus; Earth; Mars; Jupiter; Saturn; Uranus; Neptune; and Pluto.

#### **2518. SOLOMON**

**Who was Solomon?**

He was a prophet and a king of Israel. He ruled for 40 years and died in 927 BC.

#### **2519. SOLAR FURNACE, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest solar furnace in the world?**

It is atop Mt. Louis, France with 150 feet diameter mirror which provides heat of 5432 F.

#### **2520. SOLARMETER**

**What is solarmeter?**

It is an instrument that locates the position of a ship in the high seas.

#### **2521. SOLDER**

**What is a solder?**

It is an alloy containing one part of lead and one part of tin.

#### **2522. SOLDERING**

**What is soldering?**

Soldering is the joining of metals with the help of an alloy called solder.



### **2523. SOLSTICES**

**What are the solstices?**

These are the two days of the year when the sun is farthest from the equator.

### **2524. SOMNAMBULISM**

**What is Somnambulism?**

It is walking in sleep.

### **2525. SONAR**

**What is Sonar?**

It is a device that uses sound to detect and locate under water objects.

### **2526. SONIC BEAM**

**What is the Sonic Boom?**

It is loud explosion that takes place when an air craft goes faster than the speed of sound.

### **2527. SONNET**

**What is a sonnet?**

It is a fourteen lines poem of a set rhyme, scheme, and movement.

### **2528. SOUND**

**When is a person said to be of sound mind?**

A person is said to be of a sound mind when he is capable of understanding a thing and forming a rational judgment as its effect upon his interests.

### **2529. SOUND, SPEED**

**What is the speed of sound in air?**

It is 742 miles an hour.

### **2530. SOUTH AMERICA**

**Which are the countries of South America?**

These are: Panama; Columbia; Venzuala; Guyana; Surinam; French Guiana; Brazil; Bolivia; Paraguay; Uruguay; Argentina; Chile; Peru; and Ecuador.



### **2531. SOUTH POLE**

**Who was the first man to reach the South Pole?**

The first man to reach the South Pole was Roland Ammudsen in 1911.

### **2532. SPA**

**What is Spa?**

It is a place where there are mineral springs which are supposed to have medicinal properties.

### **2533. SPACE**

**In Astronomy what is Space?**

It is the expanse beyond the earth's atmosphere containing galaxies and other heavenly bodies.

### **2534. SPACE AGE**

**When did Man enter the Space Age?**

That was on October 4, 1957 when USSR launched the first satellite Sputnik I.

### **2535. SPAIN, MUSLIMS**

**For how long did the Muslims rule over Spain?**

They ruled over Spain from 711 to 1492 AD.

### **2536. SPANISH CIVIL WAR**

**What was the Spanish Civil War?**

It waged from 1936 to 1939. It was a revolt by the Fascist General Franco against the Republic which had succeeded the Monarchy in 1931. The war was won by General Franco.

### **2537. SPAN**

**In a bridge what does the span refer to?**

It refers to the length of the arch between two supports.



### **2538. SPANNER**

**What is a spanner?**

It is a tool used for screwing up or unscrewing nuts.

### **2539. SPEAR HEAD**

**In a newspaper what is a spear head?**

It is a headline that runs over two or more columns.

### **2540. SPECIFIC HEAT**

**What is the specific heat of a substance?**

It is the quantity of heat required to raise the temperature of one gram of the substance to one degree Centigrade.

### **2541. SPECIFIC HEAT, DIFFERENCE**

**Why the same amount of heat makes one thing hotter than another?**

This depends upon the atomic structure of the substance. The bigger the atoms the lesser heat will be required to raise the temperature to a given degree; the smaller the atoms the larger the quantity of heat. The law is that the specific heat of a substance is inversely proportional to its atomic weight.

### **2542. SPECIFIC HEAT, HIGHEST**

**Which substance has the highest specific heat?**

Water has the highest specific heat.

### **2543. SPECTRUM**

**What is a spectrum?**

It is a band of rays of light formed when the light is passed through a prism.

### **2544. SPECULATION**

**What is speculation?**

It is the buying of something cheap at one time for the purpose of selling the same dearer at another time.



## **2545. SPEED, RECORD**

**What are the records for speed?**

The fastest speed at which any human being has travelled so far is 24791 miles per hour reached by Apollo X on 27th May 1969.

'Star Fighter Jet' of USA attained a speed of 1420 miles per hour on 18th May 1961.

On land the car 'The Blue Flame' attained the speed of 650 miles in California on 23-10-1970.

On water the turbo-jet engine 'Blue Bird' achieved the speed of 328 miles per hour on 4-1-1967.

## **2546. SPELEOLOGY**

**What is Speleology?**

It is the science of cave exploration.

## **2547. SPHINX**

**What is the Sphinx?**

It is a great statute made out of the solid rock adjoining the pyramids in Egypt. It represents a lion with a human head 189 ft. in length.

## **2548. SPIDER, LEGS**

**How many legs does a spider have?**

It has 8 legs.

## **2549. SPINNING**

**What is spinning?**

It is the preparation of thread for weaving.

## **2550. SPIRIT LEVEL**

**What is a spirit level?**

It is an instrument for measuring the level of a surface.

## **2551. SPIROGRAPH**

**What is a Spirograph?**

It is an instrument for recording breathing movements.



## **2552. SPLIT PRICING**

**What is Split Pricing?**

It is the practice of selling a product uniform in quality and other characteristics at different prices because it is branded or packed differently.

## **2553. SPOKES**

**Why cant we see the spokes of a wheel when it goes fast?**

The marks made by anything on the retina of the eye do not instantly fade away but last for a small fraction of time. If the wheel goes around quickly the marks made by the spokes at the different parts of the journey run into each other, and we see no distinct spokes at all, but a faint blur inside the circle of the wheel.

## **2554. SPONGES**

**What are sponges?**

These are creatures which look like plants but are really animals

## **2555. SPORT**

**What is sport?**

It is any activity or experience that gives enjoyment or recreation.

## **2556. SPORTS CAR RACE**

**Which is the most important race for sports cars?**

It is the 24 hour Grand 'Prix d' Endurance' on the Sarthe Circuit (8 miles 641 yards) at Le Mans, France.

## **2557. SPUTNIK**

**What is Sputnik?**

It is an artificial satellite projected into space by USSR.

## **2558. SQUADRON**

**What is a squadron?**

It is a body of soldiers drawn up into a square.



### **2559. STADIUM, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest stadium in the world?**

It is the 'Stranhov Stadium' Prague, Czechoslovakia which accommodates  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lakh spectators.

### **2560. STAIN**

**Why does ink stain cloth?**

Ink contains a number of coloured salts. When the ink falls on a cloth and is exposed to the air the water evaporates and the colouring matter is left dry staining the cloth.

### **2561. STAINED GLASS**

**What is stained glass?**

It is glass coloured by fusing metallic oxides into it, by enamelling, or by burning pigments into its surface.

### **2562. STAINLESS STEEL**

**What is stainless steel?**

It is steel alloyed with Chromium. It is so called because it does not rust.

### **2563. STALIN**

**Who was Stalin?**

He was USSR Premier from 1941 to 1953.

### **2564. STALKING HORSE**

**What is a stalking horse?**

It is anything used to disguise or conceal intentions.

### **2565. STAMPING GROUND**

**What is a stamping ground?**

It is a favourite gathering place.



### **2566. STAR, NEAREST**

**Which is the star nearest to the earth?**

The nearest star is 'Proxima Centauri'. It is 15,000,000,000 miles away. An express travelling 70 miles per hour would take 4 crore years to reach it.

### **2567. STAR, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest star?**

It is the 'Red Giant' with a diameter of 180 crore miles. The sun and the six planets upto Saturn could be accommodated in the Red Giant.

### **2568. STARS, SURFACE TEMPERATURE**

**What is the surface temperature of stars?**

In the case of Blue Stars the surface temperature is 2,750 degrees. In the case of Yellow Stars including the Sun the surface temperature is 6000 C. In the case of Red Stars the surface temperature is 1650 C.

### **2569. STAR SPANGLED BANNER**

**The banner of which country is known as the star spangled banner?**

The flag of USA is known as such.

### **2570. STATE**

**With reference to a person what is a state?**

It is a set of circumstances characterising a person at a given time.

### **2571. STATISTICS**

**What is Statistics?**

It is the science of numerical facts and data.

### **2572. STATUE, TALLEST**

**Which is the tallest statue in the world?**

It is the 'Motherland Statue' at Volgograd, USSR set up to commemorate the battle of Stalingrad. The statue is 270 ft tall.



### **2573. STATUS QUO**

**What is status quo?**

It is the maintenance of the previous position.

### **2574. STEPPES**

**What are the steppes?**

These are regions of temperate grass lands in the northern hemisphere.

### **2575. STERLING**

**Why is the English pound called a sterling?**

In 1215 King John of England gave the family of the East-ling's the job of making the English coins. They did it so well and truly that the coins came to be called after them as sterling, as a sign of solid worth.

### **2576. STERLING SILVER**

**In sterling silver how much is silver?**

In sterling silver, 92.5% is silver and 7.5% copper.

### **2577. STETHOSCOPE**

**What is a Stethoscope?**

It is an instrument used for listening to sounds in the body, e.g. heart beats.

### **2578. ST. HELENA**

**Where is St. Helena?**

It is an island in the South Atlantic 1200 miles off the coast of Africa. It is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  miles long and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles wide. Napoleon was exiled here.

### **2579. ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY**

**Where is St. Lawrence Seaway?**

It is a ship canal in Canada. It was opened in 1825. It is 46 miles long; 14 ft. deep and 45 ft. wide.



## **2580. STALIN CANAL**

**Where is the Stalin Canal?**

It links the Baltic and the White Sea in USSR. It is 141 miles long. It was opened in 1933.

## **2581. STIMULUS**

**What is a stimulus?**

It is something which produces an answering action in a living thing, e.g. light, sound, or a prick.

## **2582. STOCK EXCHANGE**

**What is a stock exchange?**

It is a market for the sale of stocks and shares.

## **2583. STRAIGHT LINE**

**How long can be a straight line?**

It can be infinitely long.

## **2584. STRAIN**

**In Physics what is a strain?**

Strain is the ratio of the dimensional change to the original or unstrained dimension.

## **2585. STRAIT**

**What is a strait?**

A strait is a narrow stretch of water connecting two large masses of water.

## **2586. STRAIT, BROADEST**

**Which is the broadest strait in the world?**

The Mozambique Strait 245 miles wide is the broadest strait in the world.



### **2587. STRAIT, LONGEST**

**Which is the longest strait in the world?**

Malacca Strait 485 miles long is the longest strait in the world.

### **2588. STRATEGY**

**What is strategy?**

It is the art of so moving or disposing troops as to force the enemy to fight at such time or place as is more favourable to oneself.

### **2589. STRATOSPHERE**

**What is Stratosphere?**

It is the strata of atmosphere above the troposphere and extends for about ten miles. In this region the temperature is uniform about 60 C. That is so because there is no mixing up of air currents by convection.

### **2590. STREAMLINING**

**What is streamlining?**

It is a device to reduce the resistance of air.

### **2591. STREET OF PALMS**

**What is the street of palms?**

It is a continuous green ribbon of oasis 750 miles long at the base of the Atlas mountains in North Africa.

### **2592. STRESS**

**In Physics what is stress?**

Stress is the force per unit area developed inside a body when an external force is applied to it.

### **2593. STRINGED INSTRUMENTS**

**Name some stringed musical instruments?**

These are: Guitar; Harp; Benjo; Violin; Mandolin; and Pianoforte.



## **2594. STUPOR**

**What is stupor ?**

It is a state of the dullness of the mind.

## **2595. SUBLIMATION**

**What is sublimation ?**

It is the conversion of a solid direct into vapour without melting

## **2596. SUBMARINE**

**What is a submarine. How does it work.**

A submarine is a ship that can travel both under water and on the surface of the water. A sub-marine has several huge tanks which contain nothing but air while it is on the surface. In the bottom of each tank there is a valve. When the valve is opened water pours in. As the tanks are filled with water, the submarine submerged, and travels below the surface.

## **2597. SUDAN**

**By what name was Sudan originally called ?**

It was called Nubia.

## **2598. SUEZ CANAL**

**What is the Suez Canal ?**

It connects the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. It was built by the French Engineer Ferdinand de Lesseps and opened in 1869. It was managed by a Company in which the British and the French had most of the shares. The canal was taken over by the Government of Egypt in 1956. It is 101 miles long. At its narrowest it is 197 ft wide.

## **2599. SUGAR BOWL**

**Which country is called the 'Sugar Bowl of the World' ?**

Cuba is called as such.

## **2600. SUGAR CANE**

**Which countries are the main producers of sugar cane ?**

These are: India 18%; Brazil 15%; Cuba 10%; Pakistan 5%; Mexico 5%; rest 47%



### **2601. SULPHURIC ACID**

**What is the role of sulphuric acid in chemical industry?**

It is called 'the life blood of the chemical industry'.

### **2602. SUN**

**What are the main particulars about the Sun?**

It is a star with nine planets. Its diameter is 864,100 miles and weight is 2184759 sex trillion tons. It is 9.3 crore miles from the earth. At the surface the temperature is 5000 C while in the interior the temperature is over 1 crore degrees. The sun is a mass of incandescent gas, a gigantic nuclear furnace where hydrogen is being converted into helium.

### **2603. SUNSPOTS**

**What are sunspots and what are these due to?**

Sunspots are dark patches on the surface of the sun which can usually be observed only through special telescopic lenses. They are caused by magnetic activity of the sun which cools certain regions of the sun's surface so that the gases there no longer shine as brightly as the rest.

### **2604. SUN YAT-SEN**

**Who was Sun Yat-Sen?**

Sun Yat-Sen (1866—1925) was a Chinese statesman called "The Father of the Revolution". He founded the Kuomintang. He was the President of the Chinese Republic. His mausoleum is at Nanking.

### **2605. SUPERSTITION**

**Which is the greatest of all superstitions?**

Fear is the greatest of all superstitions.

### **2606. SUPREME SOVIET**

**In USSR what is the Supreme Societ?**

It is the highest legislative organ of USSR. It consists of two chambers, the Soviet of the Union, and the Soviet of Nationalities consisting of 767 and 750 members respectively (in 1970).



### **2607. SURFACE TENSION**

**What is the surface tension in the case of liquids due to?**

It is a result of attractive forces on surface molecules directed towards the interior of the liquid.

### **2608. SUSPENSION BRIDGE**

**What is a suspension bridge?**

It is the bridge in which the roadway is hung from cables without support from below.

### **2609. SUSPENSION BRIDGE, HIGHEST**

**Which is the highest suspension bridge in the world?**

It is the bridge over the Royal Gorge of the Arkansas river in Colorado 1053 feet above water level.

### **2610. SWAMP**

**Which is the largest swamp in the world?**

It is the swamp in the basin of Dnieper, USSR.

### **2611. SWAN SONG**

**What is the Swan Song?**

It is a person's final appearance or performance, a 1st gesture or piece of work before retirement. The phrase arises from the legend that the swan sings for the first and the last time just before its death.

### **2612. SWEATING SYSTEM**

**In economics, what is sweating system?**

It is the exploitation of labour by means of low wages.

### **2613. SWEEPING STATEMENT**

**What is a sweeping statement?**

It is a wholesale generalisation not warranted by facts.



## **2614. SWEETEST SONGS**

**According to Shelley what do our sweetest songs tell?**

**According to Shelley—**

“Our sincerest laughter,  
With some pain is fraught;  
Our sweetest songs are those  
That tell of saddest thought”.

## **2615. SWIMMING POOL**

**Which is the largest swimming pool in the world?**

It is the Oirthlieb Pool in Casablanca, Morocco 1575 ft. long, 246 feet wide.

## **2616. SWIMMING, RECORD**

**What is the record for swimming?**

The record for the greatest distance ever swum is 1826 miles swum in 176 days down the Mississippi in 1933 by Fred P. Newton of Oklahma. The record for the longest duration swim is 168 hours continuous swim in 1941 by Charles Zibbelman in Honolulu, Hawaii.

## **2617. SWITCH**

**How does a switch operate on an electric lamp?**

When the switch is pressed the electric circle is completed and the current flows in the lamp.

## **2618. SYKES-PICOT PACT**

**What was the Sykes-Picot Pact**

It was a secret agreement signed on 16th May 1916 between the English and the French for the partition of Turkey after the world war I.

## **2619. SYMPTOMS**

**What are symptoms?**

These are feelings of illness described by the sufferer.



## **2620. SYMPOSIUM**

**What is symposium?**

It denotes philosophical or literary discussion or contributions on a fixed subject by various authors.

## **2621. SYNAGOGUE**

**What is a synagogue?**

It is a place of worship of the Jews.

## **2622. SYNDICALISM**

**What is syndicalism?**

It is a form of socialism which aims at the ownership and control of the industries by the workers and not by the State.

## **2623. SYNTHETIC FIBRES**

**Name some synthetic fibres?**

Some of these are: Nylon; Polyester; Acridon etc.

**T**

## **2624. TABOO**

**What is a Taboo?**

A person who is ostracized or any action or custom that is forbidden by society is said to be taboo.

## **2625. TACHOMETER**

**What is tachometer?**

It is an instrument for measuring velocity by counting the revolution of wheels.

## **2626. TACT**

**What is tact?**

It is ability to understand and adjust one self to the feelings and opinions of other people.



## **2627. TAGORE, WORKS**

**Name some of the works of Rabindra Nath Tagore?**

These are Gitanjali; Gora; The Wreck; The Gardner; The Post Office; Crescent Moon; Home and World; and Chitra.

## **2628. TAG DAY**

**What is tag day?**

It is a day on which money is publicly solicited for some charity or other fund.

## **2629. TAHITI**

**Which island is known as the 'Island of Love and Romance'?**

The island of Tahiti in the Pacific is known as such.

## **2630. TAJ MAHAL**

**What is the Taj Mahal?**

It is a mausoleum built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan for his queen Mumtaz Mahal. It is at Agra. It took 18 years to build (1630—1648). It is built of white marble and is richly decorated with mosaics of semi-precious stones. It is regarded as one of the most beautiful buildings of the world.

## **2631. TALENT**

**What is talent?**

It is natural aptitude in some special direction.

## **2632. TALLEST MAN**

**What is the record for the tallest man in modern times?**

Robert Wadlow of USA was 8 ft. 11.1 inches.

## **2633. TALLEST STRUCTURES**

**Name some of the tallest structures in the world?**

These are:

- (1) Ostankino TV Tower, Moscow 1762 ft;
- (2) World Trade Centre, New York 1250 ft.
- (3) John Hancock Centre Chicago 1105 ft;
- (4) Empire State Building, New York 1250 ft.
- (5) Tokyo TV Tower 1092 ft.



### **2634. TALLEST WOMAN**

**What is the record for the tallest woman?**

Jane Bunford of Birmingham England was 7 ft 11 inches tall.

### **2635. TANTALUM-MONOPOLY**

**Which country has a monopoly of tantalum?**

Nigeria in Africa has such monopoly.

### **2636. TAPE RECORDER**

**What is a tape recorder?**

It is a machine in which sound is recorded on a tape, and which can immediately be reproduced by working the tape.

### **2637. TARE**

**What is tare?**

It is the weight of the packing or container of an article,

### **2638. TARNISH**

**Why does silver tarnish?**

The silver combines with sulphur in the air which comes from coal gas used for cooking and forms silver sulphide which is black. That tarnishes the silver.

### **2639. TASHKENT**

**Where is Tashkent?**

It is the capital of Uzbekistan. It is the largest city of Soviet Asia.

### **2640. TASTE**

**Where does the sense of taste lie?**

It lies in the mouth, principally on the tongue.

### **2641. TAXATION**

**What is taxation?**

It is a method of raising money from the people for the maintenance of the State.



## **2642. TEA**

**Which countries are the main producers of tea?**

These are: India 39%; Ceylon 22%; China 15%; and Japan 9%; USSR 6%.

## **2643. TEARS**

**How do tears occur?**

The tears occur when the gland which provide moisture to keep the eye ball rotating properly produces more water than usual. The eye cannot drain all this water in the normal way and so tears flow. The tear gland makes more water than usual when stimulated by a pungent smell or by a situation of great emotional stress.

## **2644. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION (TAA)**

**What is the Technical Assistance Administration?**

It is a service of the UNO which provides a way of helping countries to help themselves. Experts in many fields drawn from various countries go to less developed countries and share with them their technical know how and skills.

## **2645. TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

**What is technical education?**

It is special training to equip the student to take his place in a trade or profession.

## **2646. TECHNOLOGY**

**What is technology?**

It is the use of science in manufacturing things.

## **2647. TEETH**

**In a human mouth what is the number of teeth?**

Their number is 32.

## **2648. TEETH FILING**

**Where do the people have their teeth filed?**

In North Congo the people have their teeth sharpened and filed as a mark of beauty.



## **2649. TEHRAN**

**Where is Tehran?**

It is the capital of Iran.

## **2650. TELEGRAPH**

**What is telegraph?**

It is an electrical apparatus devised to transmit messages to a distance.

## **2651. TELEGRAPH POLES**

**Why are little white cups placed on telegraph poles?**

These cups are made of earthenware and are insulators. Their object is to prevent the electric current escaping down the poles into the earth.

## **2652. TELEGRAPH WIRES**

**What is the length of telegraph wires in the world?**

Their length is 6,730,000 miles. USA is the country with the largest length 2,300,000 miles.

## **2653. TELEPHONE**

**How does the telephone work?**

When we speak in the transmitter the vibrations are made by the sound waves of our voice which agitate the carbon disc and the current flows to the line wire. The currents are transformed into vibrations and sound waves of speech by iron disc of the receiver.

## **2654. TELEPHONES, NUMBER**

**What is the number of telephones in the world and in some leading countries?**

In 1968 the number in the world was 222,400,000.

The figures for some countries were: USA 10.4 crore; Japan 1.8 crore; UK 1.2 crore; West Germany 1 crore; USSR 96 lakh; France 70 lakh.



## **2655. TELEPRINTER**

**What is a teleprinter and how does it work?**

It is an instrument which prints automatically messages sent from one place to another. It consists of a telegraph transmitter with a typewriter keyboard by which characters of a message are transmitted electrically in combination or in units, being recorded by the receiving instrument. The receiving instrument then translates the matter mechanically into printed characters.

## **2656. TELESCOPE**

**What is a telescope?**

It is an instrument for seeing distant objects.

## **2657. TELESCOPE, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest telescope in the world?**

It is 200 inches reflector telescope at Mt. Palomer, California, USA. It can collect 10 lakh times as much light as the naked eye.

## **2658. TELETYPE**

**What is teletype?**

It is an electrically operated typewriter.

## **2659. TELEVISION**

**What is television and how does it work?**

Television is the transmission of images of moving objects by radio. They are produced in rapid succession and are represented so as to appear continuous. The principle of television is that first light waves are transformed into electric waves and the electric waves are transformed into light waves.

## **2660. TELEVISION, NUMBER**

**What is the number of TV stations and sets in the world?**

The number of TV stations is 6400. The number of TV sets is 27 crore. USA has the largest number of TV sets, 9 crore.



## **2661. TELFORD, THOMAS**

**Who was Thomas Telford?**

Thomas Telford (1757—1834) was a Scottish Engineer. He is regarded as one of the greatest builders of roads and bridges of all time.

## **2662. TEMPER**

**What is temper?**

It is the intensity of an individual's instinctive impulses.

## **2663. TEMPERAMENT**

**What is temperament?**

It is the general nature of a person as caused by his or her nervous system.

## **2664. TEMPERANCE**

**What is temperance?**

It is a movement which aims at reducing or ending the consumption of alcohol as a beverage.

## **2665. TEMPERATURE**

**What is temperature?**

It is the condition of hotness or coldness of a body that determines the transfer of heat energy to other bodies.

## **2666. TEMPERATURE, RECORDS**

**What are the records for temperature?**

The highest shade temperature of 136.4 F was recorded at Aziziya in Libya on 13th September 1922.

The record of the lowest temperature is -126.9 F recorded at Vostok in Siberia on 24th August 1960.

The lowest temperature ever recorded is -225.4 F recorded at an altitude 60 miles above Sweden in 1963.



#### **2667. TEMPERING**

**What is tempering?**

It is heating a substance to bright redness and then suddenly cooling it.

#### **2668. TEMPLE TREES**

**What is 'Temple Trees'?**

It is the official residence of the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka in Colombo.

#### **2669. TENNYSON**

**Name some of the well known poems of Tennyson?**

Some of his poems are: In Memoriam; The Lotus Eaters; and The Lady of Shallot.

#### **2670. TENS**

**Why do we count in tens?**

That is because originally Man counted on fingers, and the number of fingers is ten.

#### **2671. TERATOLOGY**

**What is teratology?**

It is the study of very unusual form of living things as abnormally heavy men, dwarfs, twins, and so on.

#### **2672. TERESHKOVA, VALENTINA**

**Who was Valentina Tereshkova?**

She was the first woman from USSR who flew in space in 1963.

#### **2673. TERRITORIAL WATER**

**Internationally what is the limit for a territorial water?**

The limit is three miles from the coast.

#### **2674. TEST BAN TREATY**

**What is the test ban treaty?**

It is a treaty signed in August 1963 at Moscow between UK, USA, and USSR whereby the signatories agreed to ban in their countries the nuclear testing in the air, underwater and overground.



### **2675. THACKERAY**

**Who was William Makepeace Thackeray?**

William Makepeace Thackeray 1811—1863 was an English novelist. His most famous novel is 'Vanity Fair'.

### **2676. THEATRE, LARGEST**

**Which is the largest theatre in the world?**

It is the National People's Congress Theatre at Peking covering an area of 12.9 acres.

### **2677. THEOREM**

**What is a theorem?**

It is a proposition to be proved.

### **2678. THEORY**

**What is a theory?**

It is a supposition put forward to explain something.

### **2679. THEORY OF DIMENSIONS**

**What is the theory of Dimensions?**

The theory provides that like can only equal like; length is equal to length; mass is equal to mass; and time is equal to time. When I say that the length of my garden is twice the height of the house this is possible but when I say that the length of my garden is twice the weight of my car that is not possible because the dimensions differ.

### **2680. THERESA, MARIA**

**Who was Maria Theresa?**

Maria Theresa 1717—80 was the Empress of Austria.

### **2681. THERMALGIA**

**What is Thermalgia?**

It is the sensation of burning pains.



## **2682. THERMOLOGY**

**What is Thermology?**

It is the science of heat.

## **2683. THERMOMETER**

**What is a thermometer, and what are its main scales?**

A thermometer is an instrument for measuring temperature. The main scales are:

- (1) Centigrade with degree as freezing point and 100 degrees as boiling point;
- (2) Fahrenheit with 32 degrees as freezing point and 212 degrees at boiling point.

## **2684. THERMOS FLASK**

**Why does a thermos flask keep a hot liquid hot and cold liquid cold?**

The thermos flask is a double walled bottle in which the inner surface of the outer wall and the outer surface of the inner wall are silvered, and in between there is a vacuum. That prevents radiation of heat, and as such the liquid kept in the flask maintains its original temperature.

## **2685. THERMOSTAT**

**What is a thermostat?**

It is an instrument which keeps temperature at the same level e.g. in an incubator or a refrigerator.

## **2686. THIRD REICH**

**What was the Third Reich?**

It was the official Nazi style for their regime in Germany during 1933—1945.

## **2687. THIRTY YEARS WAR**

**What was the Thirty Years War?**

It was the war between Catholics and Protestants fought on the soil of Germany during 1618—1648.



## **2688. THORNS**

**What is the purpose of thorns in plants?**

The purpose is to protect the plant and to drive away the browsing animals.

## **2689. THREE ESTATES**

**In Great Britain which are the three estates?**

These are the Lords Spiritual, The Lords Temporal, and the Commons.

## **2690. THRUST**

**What is Thrust?**

It is the force acting vertically upon any body.

## **2691. THUNDER**

**What is thunder?**

Thunder is the sound heard after the occurrence of a lightning flash. It is due to vibrations in the air along the path of the flash. The sound of thunder can be heard within a distance of about ten miles.

## **2692. THUNDEROUS SMOKE**

**Which waterfall is known as 'Thunderous smoke'?**

The Victoria Waterfall on the Zambezi river in Africa is known as the 'Thunderous Smoke'. The river falls suddenly into a chasm 300 ft deep. So narrow is the chasm that the water strikes the opposite wall sending up a vast perpetual vast cloud of spray and vapour. Hence the name 'Thunderous smoke'.

## **2693. TIDES**

**What are tides and how do they occur?**

Tides are ebb and flow of the oceans and seas. These occur because of the attraction of the moon. The high tides occur when the moon is full. Low tides occur when the moon is in the first or third quarter.

## **2694. TIDES, HIGHEST**

**Where do the highest tides occur?**

These occur in the Bay of Fundy, Canada. The tides are over 50 ft.



## **2695. TIDES, RANGE**

**What is tidal range?**

It is the average difference in water level between high tide and low tide at a place.

## **2696. TIME**

**What is Bergson's theory of Time?**

The theory is that time should not be measured mechanically since for the human being time operates as a continuous flow in which the past and the present are inseparable.

## **2697. TIME DEPOSIT**

**In a bank what is time deposit?**

It is a bank deposit withdrawable only after giving specified notice.

## **2698. TIMUR**

**Who was Timur?**

Timur 1336—1405 was a great Mongol king and General. He had his capital at Samarkand. He conquered greater part of Russia, Persia, Central Asia, and India.

## **2699. TIN**

**Which countries are the main producers of tin?**

These are Bolivia, Malaya, and Indonesia.

## **2700. TISSUE**

**What is a tissue?**

It is an aggregation of cells in which each cooperates with all others in the performance of a particular group of functions.

## **2701. TOBACCO**

**Which countries are the main producers of tobacco?**

These are: USA 18%; China 17%; India 7%; Brazil 5%; USSR 5%; Rest 48 %.



## **2702. TOBACCO COMPANY**

**Which is the largest Tobacco Company in the world?**

It is the British American Tobacco Co, London.

## **2703. TOKYO**

**What does the word 'Tokyo' mean?**

It means the eastern capital.

## **2704. TOLSTOY**

**Which are the main works of Leo Tolstoy 1828—1910?**

These are: "War and Peace"; "Anna Karrenian"; "Master and Man"; and "Resurrection".

## **2705. TOMB**

**Which is the largest tomb in the world?**

It is the tomb of Emperor Nintoku died 428. The tomb at Oska, Japan, has a length of 1594 ft and a breadth of 100 ft.

## **2706. TONGUE STICKING**

**How do the Tibetans salute one another?**

They do so by sticking out their tongies.

## **2707. TOOTH ACHE**

**When does a tooth ache?**

It aches due to the swelling of the nerves that connect the tooth with the brain.

## **2708. TOPAZ**

**What is the colour of topaz?**

It is of yellow colour.

## **2709. TOPIARY**

**What is Topiary?**

It is the art of clipping trees and shrubs into ornamental shapes.



### **2710. TORAH**

**Which books of the Bible form Torah?**

These are: Genesis; Exodus; Leviticus; Numbers; and Pentateuch. These books contain the ten commandments of Moses.

### **2711. TORRENT**

**What is a torrent?**

It is a rapidly flowing stream in an upland area.

### **2712. TORT**

**In law what is a tort?**

It is a wrongful act, other than a breach of contract for which the injured party may bring a civil action against the alleged wrong done.

### **2713. TOTALITARIANISM**

**What is totalatarianism?**

It is a single party dictatorial system of government based on the totality of the state.

### **2714. TOUT**

**In law courtx, who is a tout?**

He is a person who hangs about in a law court and induces clients to entrust their cases to a particular client.

### **2715. TOWER**

**Which is the tallest tower in the world?**

The Istankino Television Tower at Moscow 1762 ft high is the tallest tower in the world.

### **2716. TOWERS, IMPORTANT**

**Which are important towers in the world?**

There are: Minar-i-Pakistan, Lahore; Qutb Minar, Delhi; Post Office Tower, London; Eiffel Tower, Paris; Leaning Tower, Pisa; Galata Tower, Istanbul.



## **2717. TOWER OF SILENCE**

**Among the Parsees what is the Tower of Silence?**

It is a tower where the corpses are placed and left to be consumed by vultures.

## **2718. TOY BALLOON**

**Why does a toy balloon partially filled with air burst when kept near fire?**

Near the fire the air in the balloon gets hot and expands. The balloon bursts because of such expansion.

## **2719. TRACK EVENTS**

**In athletics what are track events?**

These are races run over a circular track. The track is usually a quarter of a mile round.

## **2720. TRACKING**

**What is tracking?**

It is the observing of an object's progress in flight.

## **2721. TRADE MARK**

**What is trade mark?**

It is the use of a brand name or other device to relate a commodity to the concern owning, producing or distributing it.

## **2722. TRADE UNION**

**What is a trade union?**

It is a combination of workmen formed primarily for the purpose of regulating the relations between the workers and the employer.

## **2723. TRADE WIND**

**What is trade wind?**

It is persistent wind blowing from the sub tropical belts of high pressure towards the low pressure region of the Equator.



## **2724. TRAITOR'S GATE**

**In London where is the Traitor's gate?**

It is at the tower of London.

## **2725. TRAMP**

**What is a tramp?**

It is a ship which has no fixed destination but which moves from place to place where cargo can be had.

## **2726. TRANSFORMER**

**In Physics what is a transformer?**

It is a device for increasing or reducing the voltage of an alternating electric current.

## **2727. TRANSPARENT**

**In Optics which bodies are transparent?**

These are the bodies through which light can pass, e.g. glass.

## **2728. TRANSPIRATION**

**In plants what is transpiration?**

It is the loss of water through leaves.

## **2729. TRANSISTOR**

**What is a transistor?**

It is a radio which can be carried.

## **2730. TRANSURANIC ELEMENTS**

**What are transuranic elements?**

These are elements beyond Uranium in the periodic table, i.e. having atomic weight less than 92. Some of these elements are Neptunium; Americium; and Curium. These elements do not occur in nature, but can be produced in the laboratory by suitable nuclear action.



### **2731. TRAVELLERS' CHEQUES**

**What are travellers' cheques?**

These are cheques issued by banks and the larger tourist agencies for the use of customers travelling abroad.

### **2732. TRAVELLERS' TREE**

**What is the travellers' tree?**

It is a banana like plant grown in the tropics. Its hollow leaf stocks collect water that can be tapped by thirsty travellers.

### **2733. TREASURE TROVE**

**What is treasure trove?**

It is any treasure found hidden in the earth or any private place whose original owner cannot be traced. The treasure in such cases belongs to the State.

### **2734. TREATY**

**What is a treaty?**

It is an agreement between two or more countries.

### **2735. TREATY ON SEA BED**

**What is the treaty on sea bed?**

It is a treaty signed by the USA, Britain, and USSR on the 11th February 1971 banning nuclear weapons and other instruments of mass destruction from sea beds and ocean floors.

### **2736. TREE, LARGEST LEAVES**

**Which tree has the largest leaves?**

It is the talipot palm in Sri Lanka.

### **2737. TREE LINE**

**What is the tree line?**

It is the line beyond which no tree would grow.



## **2738. TREES, RECORDS**

**What are the records about trees?**

The world's tallest tree is the Howard Libbey tree in Redwood Creek Grove, California 366 ft high.

The oldest trees in the world are the Macozamia trees in Australia estimated 10—15000 years old.

The Santa Maria Cypress tree in Mexico with a girth of 113 ft is the tree with the largest girth.

The 'General Sherman' tree in California weighing 2145 tons is the most massive tree in the world.

The tree with the deepest roots is the acacia whose roots penetrate to a depth of 150 ft.

The banyan tree is the tree with the largest number of trunks which may be as many as 3000.

## **2739. TREES, MOISTURE**

**On an average how much moisture is evaporated from a tree?**

It is estimated that 150 gallons of water evaporate from an oak tree on a single summer day.

## **2740. TRENCH**

**In warfare what is a trench?**

It is an excavation in the earth provided to protect soldiers from the enemy fire.

## **2741. TRIBE**

**What is a tribe?**

It is a body of people believed to be descended from the same ancestor.

## **2742. TRIGONOMETRY**

**What is Trigonometry?**

It is the science of triangles.



### **2743. TRINITY**

**According to Christian theology what is the Holy Trinity?**

It denotes the Christian belief in the union of Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit in one Godhead.

### **2744. TRIPLE ENTENTE**

**What was the Triple Entente?**

It was the name applied to the collaboration of Britain, France and Russia during the period 1907—1917. Under the Entente the three powers pledged not to make peace separately. The Bolshevik government in USSR disavowed the entente and made peace with the central powers separately.

### **2745. TRIPLE POINT**

**What is the Triple Point?**

It denotes that pressure and temperature conditions in which three states of a substance can exist in equilibrium. Water vapour, ice and water can be maintained in equilibrium at 4.57 millimeter pressure and—0.007 degree C temperature.

### **2746. TROPICAL REGION**

**What is the tropical region? ..**

It is the region which extends beyond the equator to  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees north latitude and to  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees south latitude. Within this region the rays of the sun come down vertically and therefore it is always hot here.

### **2747. TROPICS**

**What are the two tropics?**

These are the Tropic of Cancer in the north and the Tropic of Capricorn in the south.

### **2748. TROPISMS**

**What are tropisms?**

Plants respond to stimuli although they have no nervous system. These responses are known as tropisms.



## **2749. TROPOSPHERE**

**What is troposphere?**

It is the lowest strata of the earth's atmosphere. It extends to about seven miles. It is the region of clouds and weather. Here the temperature drops steadily as we move up.

## **2750. TRUISM**

**What is truism?**

It is a proposition the truth of which is so obvious as not to require statement or evidence in support.

## **2751. TRUMAN DOCTRINE**

**What was the Truman Doctrine?**

It was a policy expounded by President Harry S. Truman in 1947 when he declared that USA would support free people struggling for independence.

## **2752. TRUSS**

**On a bridge what is a truss?**

It is a framework of steel girders.

## **2753. TUNDRA**

**What are tundra?**

These are vast barren treeless plains in the arctic regions where the winters are long and severe, and the subsoil permanently frozen.

## **2754. TUNNEL, LONGEST**

**Which is the world's longest tunnel?**

It is the New York City West Delaware water supply tunnel 85 miles long.

## **2755. TUNNEL, RAILROAD**

**Which is the longest rail road tunnel?**

It is the Simplon II tunnel in the Alps 12-1/3 miles long.



## **2756. TUNNEL, NOISE**

**Why does a train make noise when passing through a tunnel?**

As the walls of a tunnel are quite close to the wheels of the train, the sound produced is thrown backward and forward with great rapidity and instead of the sound waves escaping into the open they fall back on our ears and this produces a noise.

## **2757. TUNNELS**

**Which are the most famous tunnels in the Alps?**

These are:

- (1) The Simplon tunnel  $12\frac{1}{2}$  miles long, the longest railway tunnel in the world;
- (2) St. Gotthard tunnel  $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles long.
- (3) Mont Cenis tunnel 8 miles long.

## **2758. TURNOVER**

**In business what is a turnover?**

Turnover are the total receipts for goods sold by a trader during a given period.

## **2759. TURNPIKE**

**What is a turnpike?**

It is a highway on which there are toll gates.

## **2760. TUTANKHAMUN**

**Who was Tutankhamun?**

He was a Phaorah of Egypt. He died in 1352 BC.

## **2761. TWILIGHT**

**What is twilight and what is its effect?**

Twilight is the faint light which appears after sunset. When the sun goes below the horizon, its light does not reach the earth, but some light is reflected downward from the upper atmosphere. The effect of twilight is that when the sun has set, there is no immediate darkness.



## **2762. TWILIGHT, MOON**

**Why there is no twilight on the moon?**

There is no twilight on the moon as there is no atmosphere on the moon.

## **2763. TWINKLE**

**Why do the stars twinkle?**

The earth's atmosphere causes the light from the stars to move irregularly and this creates the impression of the twinkling of stars.

## **2764. TYPE METAL**

**What is type metal?**

It is an alloy containing 4 parts of lead and one part of antimony.

## **2765. TYPHOID FEVER**

**What are the main feature of typhoid fever?**

The main features are high and prolonged fever, enlargement of the spleen and acute abdominal pain.

## **2766. TYPHLOLOGY**

**What is Typhlology?**

It is the study of blindness.

## **U**

## **2767. U.A.R.**

**What is U. A. R.**

It is United Arab Republic.

## **2768. U. BOAT**

**What is U. Boat?**

It was a German sub-marine.



### **2769. UFO**

**What are UFO ?**

These are unidentified flying objects such as flying saucers.

### **2770. UGLY DUCKLING**

**Who is an ugly duckling ?**

He is a plain unpromising child who later becomes important.

### **2771. UKASE**

**What is Ukase ?**

It is an arbitrary order or proclamation.

### **2772. ULAN BATOR**

**Where is Ulan Bator ?**

It is the capital of Mongolia.

### **2773. ULTIMA**

**What is Ultima ?**

It is the last syllable of a word.

### **2774. ULTRA HIGH FREQUENCY**

**In the case of a radio what is ultra high frequency ?**

It is frequency between 300 and 3000 megahertz.

### **2775. ULTRA VIRES**

**In law, what is ultra vires ?**

It is anything against law.

### **2776. UMAYYADS**

**For how long did the Umayyads rule ?**

They ruled from 661 to 750 AD.



### **2777. UMBRA**

**In a shadow what is the umbra?**

It is the darker portion of a shadow.

### **2778. UNCLE SAM**

**Who is Uncle Sam?**

He is an American personified as a tall, spare man with chin whiskers dressed in a red, white and blue costume of swallow-tailed coat, striped trousers and tall hat with a band of stars.

### **2779. UNCLE TOM**

**Who is Uncle Tom?**

He is personified as a negro whose behaviour towards the whites is fawning and servile.

### **2780. UNEARNED INCOME**

**What is unearned incomes?**

It is income from capital investments, ownership of land and savings.

### **2781. UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW**

**What is the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law?**

It is a Commission set up by the UNO with the object of the progressive harmonisation and unification of the law of international trade.

### **2782. UNITED NATIONS DAY**

**Which day is observed as the United Nations Day?**

24th October is observed as the United Nations Day.

### **2783. UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANISATION, UNESCO**

**What is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation?**

It is a specialised agency of the UNO with headquarters at Paris. Its objects are: to promote peace and security in the world



through education, science, and culture; to broaden the base of education so that opportunities for going to school would be available to all peoples in every country, in order to wipe out illiteracy and to raise educational standards throughout.

#### **2784. UNITED NATION, FLAG**

**What is the flag of the United Nations?**

It is light blue with white globe as map of the world in the centre supported by two olive branches.

#### **2785. UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND (UNICEF)**

**What is the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund?**

It is a special organisation of the UNO constituted to help children all over the world.

#### **2786. UNO—OFFICIAL LANGUAGES**

**Which are the official languages of the UNO?**

The official languages are: Arabic; Chinese; English; French; Russian; and Spanish.

#### **2787. UNO—SECRETARIES GENERAL**

**Who have been the Secretaries General of the UNO?**

These were:

(1) Trygve Lie 1946—53:

(2) Dag Hammarskjöld 1953—61:

(3) U. Thant 1961—71;

(4) Kurt Waldheim since 1972.

#### **2788. UNITY OF GOD**

**According to Islam what is the concept of the unity of God?**

The concept is that God is one and unique and that there is no god but Allah.



## **2789. UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION (UPU)**

**What is the Universal Postal Union?**

It is the specialised agency of the UNO with headquarters at Berne. It works towards the improvement of the postal service at international level.

## **2790. UNIVERSE**

**What is the Universe, and what are its dimensions?**

The Universe is Space and all the heavenly bodies contained in it. It is not possible for human imagination to grasp what the Universe involves. A light year is about 6 billion miles. The Milk Way the constellation of stars in which the solar system obtains is about one lakh light years in length. There are millions of other galaxies and the nearest galaxy to the Milky Way is 20 lakh light years away. Others are billions of light years away. Only a part of the Universe is observable. We do not know how much more is there.

## **2791. UNIVERSALISM**

**What is Universalism?**

It is the theological doctrine that all souls will eventually find salvation in the grace of God.

## **2792. UNIVERSE OF DISCOURSE**

**In Logic what is the universe of discourse?**

It is the totality of facts, things or ideas implied or assumed in a given discussion, argument or discourse.

## **2793. UNIVERSITIES, UK**

**What is the number of Universities in UK?**

These are: England 33: Scotland 8: and Wales 1.

## **2794. UNIVERSITY, LARGEST BUILDING**

**Which is the largest University building in the world?**

It is the Lompnosov State University, Moscow. It stands 788 ft high with 32 stories and 40,000 rooms.



### **2795. UNIVERSITY, OLDEST**

**Which is the oldest University in the world?**

It is the University of Qairawan, Morocco founded in 859 AD.

### **2796. UPHILL**

**Why we walk uphill more slowly than downhill?**

When we walk uphill we have by sheer muscular effort to lift the whole body away from the centre of the earth in defiance of gravitation. That needs effort and because of such effort we walk slowly. When moving downhill we do not defy gravitation, and as such lesser effort is needed and that increases our speed.

### **2797. UPWARD MOBILITY**

**What is upward mobility?**

It is movement from a lower to a higher social and economic status.

### **2798. URAL**

**What is the Ural?**

It is a mountain range in USSR which separates Asia from Europe.

### **2799. URANGOGRAPHY**

**What is Uranography?**

It is a branch of astronomy dealing with the description of the heavens and the mapping of the stars.

### **2800. URANUS**

**What are the known facts about Uranus?**

It is 180 crore miles from the sun.

Its diameter is 300000 miles. Its volume is 50 times the volume of the earth. It rotates on its axis in 10.8 hours. It takes 84 years to revolve round the sun. It has four moons which revolve round it. Its surface temperature is—297 F. It is very cold and there is no possibility of life on Uranus.



### **2801. URBANISATION, MOST URBANISED**

**Which are the most urbanised countries in the world?**

These are: Austria 83 %; UK 82 %; Israel 81 %; Uruguay 80 %; Netherlands 78 %; Newzealand 77 %; Sweden 77 %; West Germany 75 %; Canada 75 %; USA 71 %.

### **2802. URBANISATION, LEAST URBANISED**

**Which are the least urbanised countries?**

These are: Burundi 2.2 %; Nepal 3 %; Botswana 3.2 %; Malawi 5 %; Tanzania 6 %; Ethiopia 7 %.

### **2803. USA—NATIONAL MOTTO**

**What is the national motto of USA?**

The motto is "In God we trust".

### **2804. USA PRESIDENT, LONGEST TERM**

**Who has had the longest term as the President of USA?**

Franklin D. Roosevelt had the longest term from 1933 to 1945.

### **2805. USA—STATES**

**What is the number of states in USA?**

The number is 51.

### **2806. USSR—REPUBLICS**

**Which are the republics of USSR:**

These are R. S. F. S.R., Ukraine; Belorussia; Uzbekistan; Kazakhstan; Georgia; Azarbaijan; Lithunia; Moldavia; Latvia; Kirghizia; Tadjikistan; Armenia; Turkeminstan; and Estonia.

### **2807. USUFRUCT**

**In law, what is usufruct?**

It is the right of using and enjoying all the advantages and profits of the property of another without altering or damaging the substance.



## **2808. USURY**

**What is usury?**

It is the charging of an exorbitant rate of interest on a loan.

## **2809. UTILITARIANISM**

**What is utilitarianism?**

It is a school of philosophy the main proponents of which were JS Mill (1806—73) and Jeremy Bentham (1748—1832).

The concept of utilitarianism is based on the theory that the greatest happiness of the greatest number is the criterion of morality; what is good is happiness; and what is bad is pain.

## **2810. UTILITY**

**In economics what is Utility?**

It is the capacity of any goods or service to satisfy a human want.

## **2811. UTOPIA**

**What is Utopia?**

It is any idealised place, state or situation of perfection.

## **2812. UXORIOUS**

**When is a person said to be uxorious?**

He is said to be when he is dotingly and irrationally fond of his wife.

# **V**

## **2813. VACCINATION**

**What is vaccination?**

It is inoculating with a specific vaccine in order to prevent disease.

## **2814. VACUUM**

**Why does a siphon not work in vacuum?**

It is the atmospheric pressure which causes the liquid to rise in the siphon. In the vacuum where there is no pressure the siphon cannot work.



## **2815. VALEDICTION**

**What is valediction?**

It is the act of bidding or saying farewell.

## **2816. VALLEY**

**What is a valley?**

It is a stretch of lowland lying between hills or mountains and usually having a river or stream flowing through it.

## **2817. VALUATION**

**What is valuation?**

It is the act of determining the value or price of anything.

## **2818. VALUE, COST OF PRODUCTION THEORY**

**What is the cost of production theory of value?**

The theory is that the value of a commodity is governed by the cost of the various factors employed in its production.

## **2819. VALUE, LABOUR THEORY**

**In economics what is Labour Theory of Value?**

It is the theory that commodities are sold in ratios determined by the amount of labour expended on producing them.

## **2820. VANDALISM**

**What is Vandalism?**

It is malicious destruction of public or private property.

## **2821. VAN DIE- MAN'S LAND**

**What is the modern name of the land formerly known as Van Die-man's land?**

The modern name of the land is Tasmania.

## **2822. VANDYKE BEARD**

**What is Vandyke beard?**

It is a closely trimmed pointed beard.



### **2823. VANE**

**What is a vane?**

It is flat piece of metal or cloth set up high to swing with the wind and show which way it is blowing.

### **2824. VANGUARD**

**What is the vanguard?**

It is the part of an army which goes ahead of the main body in an advance.

### **2825. VANISHING POINT**

**What is the vanishing point?**

It is the point where parallel lines receding from the observer seem to come together.

### **2826. VANITY CASE**

**What is a Vanity Case?**

It is a woman's small travelling case fitted for carrying cosmetics and toilet requisites.

### **2827. VANITY PRESS**

**In publishing what is vanity press?**

It is the process of publishing books at the expense of the author.

### **2828. VARIABLE STAR**

**What is a variable star?**

It is a star whose brightness varies from time to time.

### **2829. VARIETY MEAT**

**What is variety meat?**

It is meat other than flesh such as liver, kidneys etc.



### **2830. VARIETY SHOW**

**What is a variety show?**

It is a show made up of different kinds of acts, skits, songs etc.

### **2831. VARIETY STORE**

**What is a variety store?**

It is a store that sells a wide variety of relatively small and inexpensive items.

### **2832. VATICAN**

**What is the Vatican?**

It is the official residence of the Pope in Rome.

### **2833. VATICAN, AREA**

**Which is the smallest country in the world?**

It is Vatican. 17 square miles in area ruled by the Pope.

### **2834. VARIATION**

**In Biology what is the concept of Variation?**

The concept is that no two living things are alike.

### **2835. VEGETABLES**

**What are vegetables and what is their nature?**

Vegetables are parts of green plants. These are storehouses in which plants store up food they make.

Roots in the case of carrots, stems in the case of asparagus, bulbs in the case of onions, tuber in the case of potatoes, flowers in the case of cauliflower, and seeds in the case of peas are vegetables

### **2836. VEGETABLES, MEAT**

**Which vegetables contain lot of proteins and can be used as a substitute for meat?**

Peas and beans can be used as substitutes for meat.



### **2837. VEGETABLE SHEEP**

**Which plant in ancient Pakistan was called by the soldiers of Alexander as vegetable sheep?**

It was the cotton plant which was so called.

### **2838. VEGETABLES, SWEET**

**Which vegetables are sweet?**

Beets and carrots are vegetables which are sweet.

### **2839. VEIN**

**What is a vein?**

It is a blood vessel in which blood returns to the heart from all over the body.

### **2840. VEIN/ARTERIES**

**What is the total length of the veins and arteries in the human body?**

The veins and arteries put end to end would stretch for 350,000 miles or 14 times the circumference of the earth.

### **2841. VELOCITY**

**What is velocity equivalent to?**

It is distance divided by time.

### **2842. VENEERING**

**What is Veneering?**

It is covering with a thin layer of some more costly material.

### **2843. VENETIAN BLIND**

**What is Venetian blind?**

It is a window blind made of a number of thin, horizontal slats that can be set together at any angle to regulate the air and light passing through or drawn up together to the top of the window by means of cords.



#### **2844. VENGEANCE**

**What is vengeance?**

It is the return of injury for an injury.

#### **2845. VENUS**

**What are the main particulars about Venus?**

Apart from the sun and the moon the Venus is the brightest object in the sky. It appears sometimes as the morning star and sometimes as the evening star. It is 6.7 crore miles from the sun, and 2.5 crore miles from the earth. On the Venus a day is equal to 30 days of the earth. The year is equal to 7 Venetian days only. It is very hot the surface temperature being 800° F. We cannot see the surface of the Venus because of dense clouds in its atmosphere.

#### **2846. VENZUELA**

**Venzuela is a country in South America. What does 'Venzuela' mean?**

It means 'Little Venice'.

#### **2847. VERBALISM**

**What is Verbalism?**

It is an expression without any real meaning.

#### **2848. VERDICT**

**What is Verdict?**

It is any decision or judgment.

#### **2849. VERMIN**

**Which creatures are 'Vermin'?**

Rats, mice, moles, foxes, polecats and weasals are vermin.

#### **2850. VERNE, JULES**

**Which travel tales did Jules Verne write?**

His famous books are 'Round the World in Eighty Days' and 'Thousand Leagues under the Sea'.



## **2851. VERSAILLES, TREATY OF**

**When was the treaty of Versailles signed, and what were its main terms?**

It was signed on 28th June 1919. Under the treaty Germany surrendered all colonies. In Europe it surrendered some territories to France, Belgium, Poland, and Lithuania. The German army was limited to a strength of 1 lakh persons with no tanks, no heavy artillery, and no poison gas supplies. It was required to pay heavy reparations. The Kaiser was required to be put on trial.

## **2852. VERSE, PRINCIPLES**

**What are the principles of Verse?**

These are:

- (1) quantitative, i.e. based on the length of syllables;
- (2) syllable, i.e. based on the number of syllables; and
- (3) accentual, i.e. based on the weight or stress on syllables.

## **2853. VERTEBRATES**

**What are Vertebrates?**

These are animals that have backbones.

## **2854. VESUVIUS**

**What is Vesuvius?**

It is the only active volcano on the mainland of Europe overlooking the Bay of Naples in southern Italy. The ruins of Pompeii lie near the volcano.

## **2855. VETO**

**What is veto?**

It is the power to reject a resolution or some other measure.

## **2856. VIABILITY**

**In economics what is viability?**

It is the ability to meet financial obligations.

## **2857. VIA MEDIA**

**What is via media?**

It is middle course.



### **2858. VICEROY**

**What was the number of British Viceroys in India from 1857 to 1947?**

Their number was 21.

### **2859. VICTORIA, QUEEN**

**In British history which has been the longest reign?**

Queen Victoria had the longest reign, 64 years from 1837 to 1901.

### **2860. VICTORIA CROSS**

**What is that bit of copper which a thousand million pounds will not buy?**

That is the Victoria Cross, the highest award for bravery in U.K.

### **2861. VICTORIA FALLS**

**Where are the Victoria Falls?**

The falls are on the Zambezi river in Africa.

### **2862. VIENNA CONGRESS**

**What was the Vienna Congress?**

It was a high powered body which met at Vienna in 1814-15 to settle the delimitation of various countries as a result of the defeat of France. The treaty of Vienna which resulted gave Ceylon, Maritius, Cape Colony, Malta and Guiana to England.

### **2863. VILLAGE, HIGHEST**

**Which is the highest inhabited village in the world?**

It is the village of "Aucanquilca" in Chile, South America at a height of 17500 ft.

### **2864. VINEGAR**

**Which acid is found in vinegar?**

The acid found in vinegar is acetic acid.



### **2865. VIPER**

It is a venomous snake.

### **2866. VIRGIL**

**Who was Virgil?**

Virgil (70—19 BC) was a great Italian poet. His poem 'Aenid' is regarded as the national Roman epic.

### **2867. VIRGINIA**

**After whom is Virginia named?**

It is named after the Virgin Queen Elizabeth I.

### **2868. VIRUS**

**What is Virus?**

It is a disease producing substance which grows and multiplies within living tissues but which cannot be isolated outside of living tissue except as a mineral like crystal.

### **2869. VITALISM**

**What is Vitalism?**

It is the doctrine that the behaviour of the living organisms is at least in part due to a vital principle which cannot be explained wholly in terms of Physics or Chemistry.

### **2870. VITAMINS**

**What are Vitamins?**

These are organic compounds normally present in food stuffs and which are required in the diet to maintain life and health.

### **2871. VITAMIN A**

**Which foods provide Vitamin A?**

Milk and butter are rich in Vitamin A.

### **2872. VITAMIN B**

**Which food provides Vitamin B?**

Eggs provide vitamin B.



### **2873. VITAMIN C**

**Which foods provide Vitamin C?**

Fruit and Vegetables provide Vitamin C

### **2874. VITAMIN D**

**Which food provides Vitamin D?**

Fish oils provide Vitamin D.

### **2875. VOICE**

**What are our voices due to?**

These are due to breathing. The air we breathe out vibrates our vocal cords to produce the sounds of talking, singing, and laughter.

### **2876. VOLATILE**

**Which substances are volatile?**

These are the substances which convert into vapour without heating.

### **2877. VOLCANO**

**What is a volcano?**

It is an opening in the crust of the earth through which super-heated matter is expelled.

### **2878. VOLCANOES, PARTICULARS**

**Give some particulars about volcanoes?**

There are about 450 active volcanoes in the world. The greatest concentration of volcanoes is in Indonesia. The greatest eruption of a volcano was 36.4 cubic miles in the eruption of Tombora (Indonesia) on 7th April 1815. The highest active volcano in the world is 'Volcan Guayatiri' in Chile, 19882 ft.

### **2879. VOLGA**

**Where is the Volga?**

It is a river of Russia which falls in the Black Sea after a course of 2300 miles.



## **2880. VOLLEY**

**In lawn tennis what is a volley?**

It is a stroke at the ball before it bounces or touches the ground, causing it to return.

## **2881. VOLTAGE**

**What is voltage?**

It is the electric force or pressure that makes a current flow through a circuit.

## **2882. VOLTAIRE**

**Who was Voltaire?**

Voltaire (1694—1878) was a French writer. His well known books are 'Candide', and 'Zadig'..

## **2883. VOLTMETER**

**What is Voltmeter?**

It is an instrument for measuring electric pressure in volts.

## **2884. VORTICISM**

**What is Vorticism?**

It is a movement in art which emphasises that art should be based on the principles of industrial civilisation.

## **2885. VOTE**

**What is a vote?**

It is the expression of will or opinion at an election.

## **2886. V.T.O.L.**

**In aircraft language what do the words 'V.T.O.L.' stand for?**

These stand for 'Vertical Take Off and Landing'.

# **W**

## **2887. WAGE FUND THEORY**

**In economics what is the wage fund theory?**

It is theory that the amount available for wages is limited by the amount of the capital.



## **2888. WAGES MARGINAL PRODUCTIVITY THEORY**

**What is the Wages Marginal Productivity Theory?**

It is the theory that wages tend to be equal to the value of the marginal product of labour. The marginal product is the additional income that would accrue from the employment of an extra man.

## **2889. WAGES, SUBSISTENCE THEORY**

**What is the Wages Subsistence Theory?**

The theory is that if wages rise above subsistence level an increase in population would inevitably follow thus forcing wages down again to subsistence level.

## **2890. WALKING**

**What is the record for one hour walking?**

In 1959 G. Panichkin of USSR established the record of 8 miles 1294 yards.

## **2891. WALL OF CHINA**

**What are the dimensions of the wall of China?**

It is 1500 miles long, 25 ft. wide at the base, and an average height of 20 feet.

## **2892. WALLABY**

**What is Wallaby?**

It is a small kangaroo like animal confined to Australia.

## **2893. WALRUS**

**What is walrus?**

It is a large marine mammal allied to the seal.

## **2894. WALTZING JINNS**

**What are Waltzing Jinns?**

These are whirlwinds of dust which blow from the desert.



## **2895. WAR, FIRST WORLD**

**How did the first world war begin?**

It began with Austria's attack on Serbia in July 1914 following the murder of the Archduke Francis Ferdinand at Sarajevo. Russia came to the help of Serbia and Germany came to the help of Austria. France, Britain and later USA joined Russia. Turkey and Bulgaria joined Germany and Austria.

## **2896. WAR, SECOND WORLD**

**In the second world war what were the casualties of the British, and Germany?**

Among the British the casualties were 11 lakh out of which 3 lakh were deaths. In the case of Germany casualties were 40 lakh out of which deaths were 11 lakh.

## **2897. WARSAW PACT**

**What is the Warsaw Pact?**

It is a friendship cum military alliance of the Communist countries signed at Warsaw on May 19, 1953. It was signed by USSR; Czechoslovakia; Hungary; East Germany; Rumania; Albania; Poland; and Bulgaria. It is also known as East European Security Pact.

## **2898. WART**

**What is a wart?**

It is a localised growth of skin tissue.

## **2899. WASHING SODA**

**Why do crystals of washing soda crumble into powder?**

On exposure to air the crystals of washing soda lose moisture and crumble into powder because of the process of efflorescence.

## **2900. WATCHES**

**On a ship what are the various watches?**

The watches are:

- (1) First watch 8 PM to midnight;
- (2) Middle watch, midnight to 4 AM



- (3) Morning watch, 4 AM to 8AM
- (4) Forenoon watch 8 AM to 12 Noon;
- (5) Afternoon watch 12 noon to 4 P.M.
- (6) First dog watch 4 PM to 6 PM; and
- (7) Second dog watch 6 PM to 8 PM.

## **2901. WATER**

**What is the Importance of water in nature?**

71% of the surface of the earth is covered with water. All living beings and plants depend on water for their bare existence.

## **2902. WATER, PECULIARITIES**

**As compared with other substances what are the peculiarities of water?**

Water require more heat to warm it, and more cold to cool it than any other substance. On freezing water expands and does not contract as other substances. If like other liquids water had shrunk on freezing the oceans should have been solid mass of ice in the winters and no rivers would have flowed in the winter.

## **2903. WATER COLOUR PAINTING**

**What is water colour painting?**

In such paintings water colour paints are mixed with some adhesive substance and applied with water.

## **2904. WATER GLASS**

**How is water glass made?**

It is made by fusing together soda ash and clean sand under strong heat.

## **2905. WATER PIPES**

**Why do water pipes sometimes burst in cold weather?**

In cold weather the water in the pipes freezes. Water expands on freezing and as a result of such expansion the pipes burst.

## **2906. WATER POLO**

**What is water polo?**

It is a ball game played by swimmers.



### **2907. WATER POWER**

**What is water power?**

It is energy obtained from moving water.

### **2908. WATER—SEAS AND OCEANS**

**Why is the water in the seas and oceans always moving?**

That is because of wind the rotation of the earth and the changing density of water.

### **2909. WATER SPRING**

**What is a water spring?**

It is a natural outflow of water from the ground.

### **2910. WATER VAPOUR**

**What is the purpose of water vapour in the atmosphere?**

It furnishes a blanket that helps to retain heat from the sun.

### **2911. WATERLOO, BATTLE OF**

**When was the battle of Waterloo fought and what were its consequences?**

It was fought on 18th June 1815. In this battle Napoleon was defeated. He abdicated and was exiled to St. Helena.

### **2912. WATERFALLS**

**Which are the greatest waterfalls in the world?**

Angel Waterfall on Carrao river in Venezuela with a drop of 3212 ft is the highest waterfall.

On the basis of flow the greatest waterfall is Salto das Sete Quidas on the Alto Parana river in Brazil with a peak flow of 17½ lakh cubic ft per second.

The widest waterfall is the Khone Falls in Laos with a width of 7 miles.

### **2913. WAVE**

**What is a wave?**

It is a travelling electrical or mechanical disturbance which repeats itself at regular intervals.



## **2914. WEALTH**

**In economics what is wealth?**

Wealth comprises goods and other assets commanding a market value. It represents stored up facilities for the satisfaction of future wants.

## **2915. WEATHERING**

**What is weathering?**

It is the process of the crumbling and wearing away of rocks.

## **2916. WEAVER BIRD**

**What is peculiar about the weaver bird?**

It constructs an elaborate nest of woven grass.

## **2917. WEGENER THEORY**

**In geography what is Wegener theory?**

The theory is that the continents of the earth were at one time close together but in time moved apart into their present positions.

## **2918. WEIGHT**

**What is weight due to?**

It is due to the pull of the earth.

## **2919. WEIGHT LIFTING**

**What is the record for the greatest weight lift?**

In 1957 Paul Anderson of USA lifted a weight of 6270 lb.

## **2920. WEIMAR**

**Where is Goethe buried?**

He is buried at Weimar.

## **2921. WEIMAR REPUBLIC**

**What was the Weimar Republic?**

It was the name by which the German Federal Republic was called during the period 1918-33 before the rise of Hitler.



### **2922. WELL, DEEPEST**

**Which is the world's deepest well?**

It is the Stensvaad Water Well 7320 ft deep in Rosebud County, Montana, USA.

### **2923. WELLAND SHIP CANAL**

**What is the Welland Ship Canal?**

It is the waterway of Canada linking L. Erie and Ontario west of Niagara falls.

### **2924. WEST INDIES**

**What do the West Indies comprise?**

These comprise the republics of Dominica, Cuba, and Haiti; the dominions of Jamaica; Trinidad, and Tobago, and dependences of the USA, France, Netherlands and Great Britain.

### **2925. WEST IRIAN**

**Where is West Irian?**

It is the western part of the island of New Guinea.

### **2926. WESTMINSTER, STATUTE OF**

**What is the statute of West Minister?**

It is a British Act passed in 1931 affirming that dominions are autonomous communities within the British empire equal in status, united by a common allegiance to the Crown and freely associated as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

### **2927. WETTEST PLACE**

**Which is the wettest place in the world?**

It is Mt. Waialeale in Hawaii where there is a rainfall for 335 days in a year.

### **2928. WET PAVEMENT**

**Why do we slip on a wet pavement?**

That is because in the case of a wet pavement the friction is reduced and the earth cannot sustain the body.



### **2929. WELDING**

**What is welding?**

Welding is the process of uniting metals by heating their joining portions sufficiently enough to make those portions melt and fuse.

### **2930. WHEAT**

**Which countries are the main producers of wheat?**

These are USSR 26%; USA 14%; China 9%; Canada 5%; France 5%; Rest 41%.

### **2931. WHIG**

**Name some of the Whig leaders of Great Britain?**

They included Walpole; Chatham; Burke; Fox; Grey; Russell and Palmerston.

### **2932. WHISPERING GALLERY**

**Where is the Whispering Gallery?**

It is in St. Paul's Cathedral, London. A person whispering against the wall in one part of the gallery can be heard by a person sitting with his ear to the wall on the opposite side of the gallery.

### **2933. WHIRLWIND**

**What is whirlwind?**

It is violent wind which revolves round a vertical axis.

### **2934. WHITE HOUSE**

**What is the White House?**

It is the official residence of the President of USA in Washington.

### **2935. WHITE PAPER**

**What is White Paper?**

It is a policy statement published by Government on a subject of great public importance.



## **2936. WHITE SEA**

**Where is the White Sea?**

It is a branch of the Arctic Ocean, over 300 miles long. Its chief port is Archangel.

## **2937. WHOOPING COUGH**

**Why is whooping cough so called?**

It is so called because of the noise in drawing in a breath in the attacks of coughing.

## **2938. WILL O' THE WISP**

**What is the will o' the wisp?**

It is a pale flame which is sometimes seen flickering in a marshy ground. The flame is due to the burning of certain gases produced by dead plants or animal matter.

## **2939. WILSON, WOODROW**

**How has the work of Woodrow Wilson as the President of USA been assessed?**

He is regarded as a supreme genius but a magnificent failure.

## **2940. WIND**

**What is Wind?**

A Wind is a horizontal current of air which is made to blow on account of differences in temperature and pressure at different points.

## **2941. WIND, CLASSIFICATION**

**How are winds classified according to their speeds?**

A wind blowing at the rate of 32 miles an hour is known as a gale.

When it blows at the rate of 60 miles an hour it is a storm.

When it blows at the rate of 75 miles an hour it is a hurricane.



## **2942. WIND INSTRUMENTS**

**Name any six wind instruments used in music?**

These are: Bagpipe; Clarionet; Flute; Trumpet; Saxophone; and Organ.

## **2943. WIND MEASUREMENT**

**How is wind measured?**

The force of the wind is measured by the instrument anemometer. The direction of the wind is measured by the wind vane.

## **2944. WINIDEST PLACE**

**Which is the windiest place in the world?**

It is the Commonwealth Bay, Antaractica where gales reach the speed of 200 miles per hour.

## **2945. WINDY CITY**

**In America which city is known as the Windy City?**

In America, Chicago is known as the Windy City.

## **2946. WINE, LEADING PRODUCER**

**Which country is the leading producer of wine in the world?**

France is the leading producer of wine in the world.

## **2947. WINTER SPORTS**

**What are winter sports?**

These are open air sports amidst snow.

## **2948. WIRELESS**

**What is wireless?**

It is the system of sending electrical and telegraphic signals without any wire.

## **2949. WISHFUL THINKING**

**What is wishful thinking?**

It is the thought that conditions are as an individual would wish them to be.



### **2950. WOLVES**

**How can wolves be distinguished from dogs?**

In the case of wolves their heads and muzzles are broader; their forelegs heavier; their tails shorter and bushier; and their coats richer and thicker.

### **2951. WOOL**

**Why is wool the chief material for clothing in the winter?**

It is the chief material for clothing owing to its resistance to damp, and to the warmth which it gives by being a good insulator of heat.

### **2952. WOOLLEN THREAD**

**How would you test whether a thread is woollen?**

Burn it; if it swells and has a greasy odour it is woollen; otherwise not.

### **2953. WOMAN—BEST DRESSED**

**During the 20th century which women have been regarded as the best dressed?**

During the period 1902—1914 Mrs. Henry M. Flagler of Palm Beach, Florida was the best dressed woman. She never wore any dress the second time.

In the thirties and forties Wallis Warfield the lady for whom Edward VIII abdicated the throne held this honour.

In the sixties Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy was regarded as the best dressed woman.

### **2954. WOMEN—WEAPONS OF**

**According to Napoleon what are the weapons of women?**

The weapons are cosmetics and tears.

### **2955. WOOD, LIGHTEST**

**Which is the lightest wood known?**

It is the wood of Balsa, a tropical tree found in Ecuador. The wood is about half as heavy as cork.



## **2956. WORDS**

**How many words there are in the 'Oxford English Dictionary'?**

The number of words is 414,825.

## **2957. WORDSWORTH**

**Name some of the famous poems of William Wordsworth (1770—1850)?**

Some of his poems are: 'An Evening Walk'; 'Ode on Intimations of Immortality'; 'The Prelude'; 'Lucy'; 'Tintern Abbey'; 'Resolution and Independence'.

## **2958. WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION**

**What is the World Health Organisation?**

It is a specialised agency of the UNO with headquarters at Geneva. Its objective is the attainment by all people of the highest possible standard of health.

## **2959. WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION**

**What is the World Meteorological Organisation?**

It is a specialised agency of the UNO with headquarters at Geneva. Its purpose is to improve weather observations and adopt common standards for weather reporting.

## **2960. WORLD WAR I, COST**

**What was the cost of the world war I?**

It was 18600 crore dollars.

## **2961. WORLD WAR II**

**What was the world war II?**

It was a conflict between the allied nations USA, Great Britain, Russia and France, and the Axis Powers, Germany, Italy, and Japan. The war lasted from 1939 to 1945 and finally the Axis powers were defeated.



## **2962. WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION**

**What is workmen's compensation?**

It is a system by which workmen and their families receive compensation for death or accident during employment.

## **2963. WRINKLES**

**Why do old people get wrinkles?**

The wrinkles are the result of the process of wasting in the skin. As a result of such waste, fat disappears under the skin so that the skin becomes loose for the body thus causing wrinkles.

## **X**

## **2964. XENOPHOBIA**

**What is Xenophobia?**

It is morbid fear of strangers.

## **2965. XEROPHYTES**

**What are Xerophytes?**

These are plants which grow in deserts and dry places.

## **2966. XENOPHON**

**Who was Xenophon?**

Xenophon (435—355 BC) was a Greek philosopher. He was a pupil of Socrates. His famous books include 'Anabasis'; 'Cyropaedia', and 'Symposium'.

## **2967. XERXES**

**Who was Xerxes?**

Xerxes was the king of Persia and ruled from 485 to 465 BC. He led a Persian expedition against the Greeks and defeated them at Thermopylae.

## **2968. X-RAYS**

**When were the X-Rays discovered?**

These were discovered by Rontgen in 1895.



## **2969. XYLOGRAPHY**

### **What is Xylography?**

It is the science relating to wood engraving.

## **Y**

## **2970. YAK**

### **What is a Yak?**

It is a mammal used as a beast of burden in Tibet. It is the mammal which lives at the highest altitude 20,000 ft.

## **2971. YALTA CONFERENCE**

### **What was the Yalta Conference?**

It was the Conference held at Yalta in Crimea in 1945 and attended by Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin. Here an agreement was reached among the allies about the military operations. It was also decided to call a conference at San Francisco to prepare a Charter of United Nations Organisation.

## **2972. YANGTSE KIANG**

### **What is Yangtse Kiang?**

It is the longest river of China 3430 miles long.

## **2973. YANKEE**

### **Who is a Yankee?**

He is an American.

## **2974. YAWN**

### **Why do we yawn?**

When we feel tired, sleepy or bored that is due to the fact that we are not breathing as deeply as we should. We yawn to take a deeper breath to overcome fatigue or boredom.

## **2975. YEAR**

### **What is the exact duration of a solar year?**

It is 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, 49.7 seconds.



## **2976. YELLOW FEVER**

**What are the symptoms of yellow fever?**

The symptoms are: inflammation of the kidneys, liver, and stomach, a yellow skin, and vomiting.

## **2977. YELLOW FLAG**

**When a yellow flag is flown on a ship what does it signify?**

It signifies that the ship is carrying patients suffering from infectious diseases.

## **2978. YELLOW SEA**

**What is the Yellow Sea?**

It is an arm of the Pacific Ocean between Korea and North China.

## **2989. YOGA**

**What is Yoga?**

It is a spiritual exercise among the Hindus the ultimate aim of which is to attain union with the Universal Spirit.

## **2980. YUGOSLAVIA**

**Which is the capital of Yugoslavia?**

The capital of Yugoslavia is Belgrade.

## **Z**

## **2981. ZAFAR ALI KHAN**

**Which books did Zafar Ali Khan write?**

He wrote 'Baharistan'; 'Chamanistan'; and 'Nigaristan'.

## **2982. ZAGROS MOUNTAINS**

**Where are the Zagros mountains?**

These are in Iran on the border of Turkey and Iraq.



### **2983. ZAIRE**

**By what name was Zaire previously known?**

It was known by the name of Congo.

### **2984. ZAFARULLAH KHAN**

**A Pakistani has held the highest office in the judicial hierarchy, namely the presidentship of the International Court Who is he?**

Sir Zafrullah Khan has held this office.

### **2985. ZANZIBAR**

**Where is Zanzibar and what is it known for?**

It is an island in the Indian Ocean off the east coast of Africa. It is known for its clove trees.

### **2986. ZEBRA CROSSING**

**What is Zebra crossing?**

It is a striped passage along a road for the crossing of Pedestrians.

### **2987. ZEND AVESTA**

**What is Zend Avesta?**

It is the sacred book of the Parsees.

### **2988. ZENITH**

**In astronomy what is Zenith?**

It is a point straight above one's head.

### **2989. ZERO**

**What is the characteristic of Zero?**

When zero is multiplied with any term the result is always zero.

### **2990. ZERO HOUR**

**In war, what is the zero hour?**

It is the point of time when the start of war is imminent.



### 2991. ZHIVARGO

**Who wrote 'Dr. Zhivargo'?**

It was written by Boris Pasternak. It is a novel the theme whereof is the Marxist way of life. The author was awarded Nobel prize in 1958.

### 2992. ZINC

**Which countries are the leading producers of zinc?**

These are: Canada 23%; USSR 11%; USA 10%; Peru 7%; rest 49%.

### 2993. ZIONISM

**What was Zionism?**

It was a movement for the return of the Jews to Palestine.

### 2994. ZIP.

**How does a zip work?**

Zips have two edges of teeth and hollows which fit tightly into each other.

### 2995. ZODIACAL LIGHT

**What is Zodiacal light?**

It is a glow seen after sunset during spring evenings or before sunrise in the autumn. It is due to the reflection of sun light from a swarm of meteoric particles surrounding the sun.



Who wrote 'Dr. Zalvarge'?

It was written by Boris Pasternak. It is a novel the theme of which is the Marxist way of life. The author was awarded Nobel prize in 1958.

2992. ZINC

Which countries are the leading producers of zinc?

These are Canada, USA, USSR, Belgium and 69%.

What was Einstein's theory?

It was a theory of relativity.

How does a ship work?

Ships have two engines which are connected to each other.

What is Zodiacal light?

It is a glow which appears during spring evenings or before sunrise in the morning. It is due to the reflection of sun light from a swarm of dust particles surrounding the sun.



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## THE AUTHOR

The Author of this book is Professor Masudul Hasan. He retired from Government service in 1970. The last office held by him was 'Adviser to Government, Local Government Department'. He is a recognised authority on Local Government and is the author of over a dozen books on local government law and practice. Since retirement he has taken to writing and has written about a hundred books. He is associated with Ferozsons as their Editor and Adviser. His books command international importance.



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